



THE BEST OF THE

Wrestler

Spring 1983

47930 \$1.50



**Putski vs.
Valentine:**

**WHY IVAN PUTSKI
HAD TO DO
DUSTY RHODES'
DIRTY WORK**

**HOW PAUL JONES TURNED
RIC FLAIR INTO A HERO**

**BRUNO SAMMARTINO—
GREATEST SPORTS LEGEND!**

**ERNIE LADD: "BOB BACKLUND IS
PAYING ME TO DESTROY ANDRE!"**

31

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71896 47930

We will guide into your own

● While keeping your
let servicemen greatly



a true story by Bob Ferrel

SOME YEARS AGO I was a printer in a small Michigan town. I drew a pretty fair pay check but it wouldn't stretch far enough to provide the kind of living I wanted for my wife and five children.

Then one day I was reading a magazine just as you now are and I saw an ad. It intrigued me. It offered me the steadily growing income I had always hoped for. It said I would have greater security and personal independence ... and that's what I had been wanting.

I was a little skeptical, but I said to myself, "for a postage stamp I can find out." So I mailed the coupon. In a few days, I got a letter with a booklet that gave the whole story. It opened my eyes. I could see why owning my own business was so much easier than I had always thought ... why the day-to-day guidance of a successful worldwide organization could assure my own success.

I read the booklet several times. It just seemed too good to be true. I talked it over with my wife. We decided that now was the time to make the forward step ... there was no reason to keep postponing an income increase.

So, I applied for a Duraclean dealership and I was accepted. I stayed with my job ... ran a few ads ... sent some mailings ... contacted a few stores and told my friends about the superior services I was now equipped to give them. Evenings and Saturdays, I rendered the service. As the business grew, I added servicemen.

I found that I didn't have to develop a single idea myself. Every step has been prepared for me and pre-tested. Hundreds of other men had already proven my methods successful.

It didn't take long to see that I was making three to four times (yes, 3 to 4 times) as much per hour in my own business as in my printing job. So, after only seven months with a good following of customers, I quit my job to go full time on my own. In the meantime, I had enjoyed all this extra income on top of my salary.

Each day, we realized what a serious mistake not mailing that coupon would have been ... and how that little act that seemed so trivial at the time actually changed our lives.

The steadily growing income brought us many things we could not afford before. My efforts were so much more productive. I scheduled my time to my own liking. When we wanted a day or two off, we took it. I worked hard but, if I wanted to be home early or quit at noon, I did.

I became so enthusiastic about this business and so appreciative of what it had brought my family that, whenever a man opened a dealership near me, I helped him get a quick start.

The company learned about this and had each new dealer in my section of Michigan spend a day with me. One day the president of Duraclean Company asked me how I would like to move to Headquarters and spend my entire time helping dealers to increase their sales and profits.

That was good news to my ears. Since then I have worked with hundreds of our dealers in their own towns and at regional meetings, conventions and dealer group meetings, and by letter and telephone. All the top officers here take an interest in each dealer's success.

you step by step thriving business

present job, increase your income

Incidentally I sold my dealership at a good profit. Many dealers sell their dealerships for several times their cost. If for any reason a dealer wants to sell, we maintain a service to locate buyers and help him sell.

Our job here at headquarters is to show each individual Duraclean dealer how to use his own abilities to bring him greatest success. I know hundreds of our dealers on a first name basis. We work together as one happy family. If you become a Duraclean dealer, we are as close to you as your telephone or mail box.

It's Easier Than You Think To Build Your Own Business

If you've wanted to BE YOUR OWN BOSS ... to become financially independent and have a fast growing income, now YOU CAN. And you own a Nationally Advertised business.

You can stay at your present job while your customer list grows ... then switch to full time, lining up jobs for your servicemen to do. One job a day brings a good starting income.

If you hire two servicemen (full or part time) while you keep your job, the national price guide provides you a gross profit of \$14 an hour on their work and this is much easier to do than you think. **We show you how ... step by step.** That \$490 for a 35 hour week.

Your gross profit on three servicemen is \$21 per hour. An efficient Duraclean dealer can gross \$7 per hour on EACH serviceman plus \$12 an hour on any service he himself renders. The 32 page illustrated booklet we'll mail you (with no obligation) explains how most of your gross profit becomes **clear net profit**. Your income is limited only by the number of servicemen you employ.

You can operate from a shop, office, or your home. Equipment is light and portable.

At the start, you may want to render service yourself ... or you can start with full or part time servicemen. This business is easy to learn ... easy to start. We prefer you have no experience ... not have to "unlearn" old ways.

Duraclean is enlarging this worldwide system of individually-owned service businesses. If you are reliable, honest and willing to work to become financially independent, we invite you to mail the coupon.

When you receive our illustrated booklet, you will see how you are guided **step by step** to quickly

get customers ... and still more customers from their recommendations.

You have 7 superior services that are rendered "on location" in homes, offices, hotels, theaters, clubs, motels and institutions.

These are not ordinary services. You have the prestige and endorsement of leading furniture makers and carpet mills, and of Research and Testing Laboratories.

National magazine advertising explains superior merits of your services, builds your customer's confidence and brings job leads to you.

Your headquarters and a Duraclean dealer will train you and assist you. He'll reveal his successful, proven methods. You have pre-tested newspaper and yellow-page ads, commercials, and a full mailing program.

Start Small, Grow Big in this Booming Business

Many men have said to us, "I can't afford to give up my job till I have a sure thing ... a sound business that will provide both security and a better living for my family."

That made sense to us so we worked out such a plan ... and those same men are now enjoying Duraclean dealerships worldwide. You don't experiment. You use **tested, proven** methods. You have **Duraclean's backing and 50 years of "know how."**

Does this appeal to you? Don't decide now. Mail the coupon so you'll have the facts to decide wisely. There is no obligation. You'll then know whether this is what you want.

You can start small and grow big.

Our first service, the care of upholstery and carpets not only cleans, it enlivens the fibers ... revives dull colors. Pile rises with **new life**. There's no harsh machine scrubbing. No soaking. Mild aerated foam lightly applied lifts out dirt, grease, many unsightly spots like magic. Furnishings are used again in a few hours.

Government figures show service businesses are **growing faster** than industries and stores ... \$750 million yearly potential just in rug and furniture cleaning. Your **6 other services** are explained in the free booklet we'll mail you.

You can start a dealership for as little as \$3,488. Another option is an \$11,588 full cash investment, and if you qualify, Duraclean can work out financing for half this amount.

It is surprisingly easy to learn this business. You can decide from the information we will send you whether to apply for a dealership. So, with **no obligation whatever**, mail the coupon TODAY. Cut it out NOW so you won't forget to mail it.



**Duraclean
International**

**Mail this coupon TODAY
It may put you in business**

**Duraclean International
3-963 Duraclean Bldg., Deerfield, Ill 60015**

With **no obligation**, mail 32 page illustrated booklet telling how and why I can quickly increase my income and family security while still employed, how you'll help finance me. No salesman will call on me.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

THE BEST OF Wrestler

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STANLEY WESTON
President and Publisher

PETER KING
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Get in on the PROFITS in SMALL ENGINE service and repair Start your own money

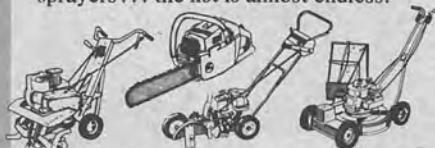
In just a short time, you can be ready to join one of the fastest growing industries in America...an industry where qualified men are making from \$10.00 to \$15.00 per hour...and that's just for labor. Parts, engines and accessories add even more to the profits.



Because the small engine industry has grown so quickly, an acute shortage of qualified Small Engine Professionals exists throughout the country. In fact, it's not unusual for a good small engine man to be three to four weeks behind in the summer and at least a week behind in the winter. When you see how many small engines are in use today, it's easy to understand why qualified men command such high prices—as much as \$17.50 for a simple tune-up that takes less than an hour!

65-million small engines are in service today!

That's right—there are over sixty-five million 2-cycle and 4-cycle small engines in service across the U.S.A. That's the official count from the Engine Service Assn., and new engines are being built at a rate of one-million per month! With fully accredited and approved Foley-Belsaw training, you can soon have the skill and knowledge to make top money servicing these engines. Homeowners and businessmen will seek you out and pay you well to service and repair their lawnmowers, tillers, edgers, power rakes, garden tractors, chain saws, mini-bikes, go-carts, snowmobiles, generators, snowblowers, paint sprayers...the list is almost endless.



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Cash in on the huge demand for small engine repair.

Work part time, full time right at home—we help you every step of the way.

making business!

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City _____

State _____ Zip _____



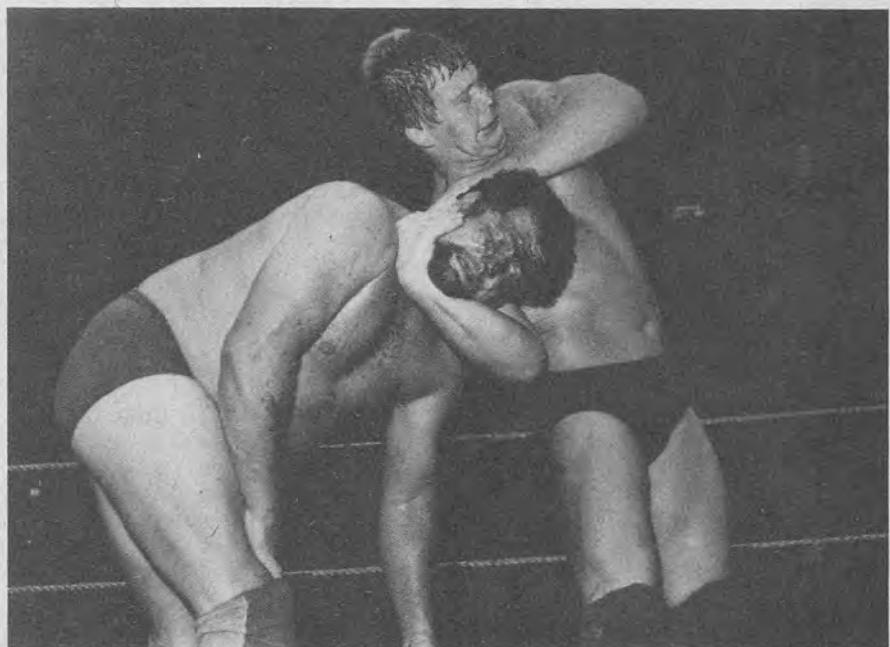
THE BEST OF THE WRESTLER: THE BEST OF THE BEST!

IT MAY BE winter, but we have 14 of the finest wrestling stories from *The Wrestler* to help keep you warm.

This month's edition begins with **Dundee vs. Lawler: How Ambition Destroyed A Friendship**, from the January 1980 issue of *The Wrestler*. Bill Dundee and Jerry Lawler had been a world-class tag team until jealousy came between them. This story shows what happens when friendship turns into hatred.

Currently in the WWF there is a young man named Eddie Gilbert who is, week by week, getting closer to main-event status. But how did his career begin? **Introducing Eddie Gilbert**, from December 1979, was the first story ever published on a youngster who has since zoomed to the top.

In recent years, Terry Funk has wrestled to please himself, not the fans. So when he wrestled Maniac Mark Lewin, many observers were surprised. **Pride Is The Only Reward** (*The Wrestler*/March 1979) details



the reason behind Funk's decision to wrestle the hated Lewin.

In July 1979, there was much talk about a champion vs. champion matchup between NWA titleholder Harley Race and WWF champion Bob Backlund. **The Only Man Who Could Force Them To Wrestle** is a behind-the-scenes look at the internal workings of how such a match is brought to contract.

He has been a superstar for more than two decades. But **Bobo Brazil—Ageless Wonder** (November 1979), shows no signs of slowing down. This story is a tribute to one of wrestling's most honorable men.

In our star-studded July 1979 edition of *The Wrestler*, we published a story that brought more mail than any article in years. **Bruno Sammartino—**
(Continued on page 58)

An ATLAS BODY? In 7 days

my method of DYNAMIC-TENSION starts giving you results you can feel and your friends will notice. Big, useful muscles. Gain pounds in weight where needed.

Lose "pot belly." Take a good honest look at yourself! Are you proud of your body — or are you satisfied to go through life being just "half the man" you could be? No matter how ashamed you are of your present physical condition — or how old or young you are — the "sleeping" muscles already present in your body can turn you into a REAL man! Believe me, I know — because I was once a skinny, scrawny 97-pound half-alive weakling! People used to laugh at my build and make fun of me. I was ashamed to strip for sports or the beach . . . shy of girls . . . afraid of healthy competition.

HOW I CHANGED FROM A 97 LB. WEAKLING TO A REAL MAN.

One day, I discovered a secret that changed me from a timid, frightened scarecrow into "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man" — a "magic formula" that can help turn you, too, into a marvellous physical specimen . . . a REAL man from head to toe . . . a man who STANDS OUT in any crowd! What's my secret? "DYNAMIC-TENSION" — the natural method! No theory. No gadgets or contraptions. You just do as I did. Simply take the "sleeping" muscles already present inside your own body — build them up — use them every day in walking, bending over, reaching, even sitting! Almost before you know it, you're covered with a brand-new suit of beautiful, rock-hard SOLID MUSCLE!

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So sure am I of how fast "Dynamic-Tension" works that I make this offer to you. Try my course for 7 days and in even that short period of time you will have results that not only you can feel, but your friends will notice, or it costs you nothing. Send for my free book. WRITE NOW!

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MORE WEIGHT?



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THE INSULT THAT MADE A MAN OUT OF 'MAC'



WIN THIS
VALUABLE
TROPHY



Dundee vs. Lawler:

Bill Dundee and Jerry Lawler are honored at a testimonial dinner in Memphis. A month later, they met in a bloodbath.

HOW AMBITION DESTROYED A FRIENDSHIP

Great Combinations: Huntley and Brinkley. Peanut butter and jelly. Abbott and Costello. Bill Dundee and Jerry Lawler could easily have been part of that list. But the trust they once had for each other has disappeared. Now they are trying to destroy each other

THE SPORT OF wrestling makes extraordinary demands on its members. From the constant tumult of title bouts, friendships spring up. But they are more like alliances. They are borne of necessity, not out of warmth.

Jerry Lawler and Bill Dundee defied tradition. They teamed because they genuinely admired and liked each other. They carried that affection beyond the squared circle.

Dundee and Lawler attended barbecues together, went to parties together. They personified the word friend.

Even when they dissolved their partnership, it was temporary. The door was always open for a re-uniting of the spirit. Both avidly followed the other's match. Advice was tendered, opponents dissected. A victory for one was a triumph for the other.

That's what friendship



means. Jerry Lawler and Bill Dundee. Supposedly they were immune to the petty vices of greed and ambition. Unfortunately, they were not sufficiently inoculated against a divisive disease known as the AWA title. Diamond-studded.

A while ago, Lawler battled champion Nick Bockwinkel. Even Bockwinkel conceded it ranked among his toughest challenges.

"Lawler is good. Naturally, not as good as me, but, how could anyone expect that?" Bockwinkel said, grinning. "He deserves another shot."

Word that Bockwinkel was returning to Memphis for a match against the top contender spread through the area. Everyone assumed it would be a brutal rematch between Bockwinkel and Lawler. Everyone except one man.

(Continued on page 10)

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!

Baldness Cure?

EXCLUSIVE

'The progressive re-growth of hair is not in question.'

According to the Federal Trade Commission nothing now exists that can re-grow hair on a balding scalp.

Although **scores of satisfied clients**, both men and women, that once suffered from the problems of pattern baldness are **convinced** the formula known as **MEDI-TEC 90™** was the cause for their regrowth of hair, their own documented testimonials stating the incredible results achieved with the use of **MEDI-TEC 90™** is not what the Federal Trade Commission calls acceptable proof.

NOTE: The actual file photographs shown on this page, photographs of the progressive re-growth of hair experienced while using **MEDI-TEC 90™** have not been altered.

SEEING IS BELIEVING

But with the complex regulations binding the F.T.C., the possibility of coincidence prohibits F.T.C. endorsements.

FACT: That there is a definite progressive re-growth of hair while under the **MEDI-TEC 90™** program is not in question.

WHAT WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REGROWTH OF HAIR?

For the many who have used **MEDI-TEC 90™** and experienced the re-growth of hair. The daily application of the **MEDI-TEC 90™** solution was the cause. They feel, as the following testimonials state, that without the daily application of **MEDI-TEC 90™** their suffering and embarrassment would not have ended.

"I'm writing you this letter because I must apologize. When my husband ordered your product I was mad. Throwing money away on some worthless product again. But now after about 5 weeks hair is growing. I can see it myself with my own eyes."

Mrs. S.C.

*"I started using your formula at — (a well known private clinic). Now I apply it (**MEDI-TEC 90™**) myself at home. The formula works — my hair has grown on the balding areas and it only cost me 1/3 the price."*

Mr. P.G.

"What more can I say but thank you, thank you, thank you."

Mr. L.M.

"Besides the fact that your product works...It's easy to use, no odor and not greasy!"

Mr. H.B.

"Your product has done more for me than grow hair on my scalp...It has given me back my confidence..."

Mr. C.D.

NOTE: Formulations developed for the treatment of pattern baldness are presently used by expensive clinics in the United States and many countries around the world. The fact is you can apply these same formulations to your scalp at home without the expense or embarrassment of going to a "baldness" clinic. The Robertson-Taylor Co., a division of Intra-Medic Formulations Inc, believes that an affordable "at home" treatment must be made available. The suffering of baldness should not be a penalty of a moderate income.

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT FROM MEDI-TEC 90™?

THE PHOTOS SHOWN ARE NOT STUDIO PHOTOS. THEY WERE TAKEN BY AN ACTUAL CLIENT AT HOME. THE POOR REPRODUCTION ON THIS PAGE IS DUE TO THAT FACT.



SEE RESULTS IN WEEKS.

The fast acting **MEDI-TEC 90™** Formula will start to work immediately. This exclusive formula will begin to allow the hair follicle to "breath". In 2-4 weeks you will start to see evidence of new hair growth in previously bald or thinner areas. After that your new hair will gradually continue to fill in and thicken.

MEDI-TEC 90™ — THE ODORLESS, GREASELESS, EASY TO USE FORMULA

This powerfully effective formula is easy to use. It is odorless, it is greaseless, and it is easily applied with a spray applicator that is supplied at no extra charge. Simply spray **MEDI-TEC 90™** onto the thinning or balding areas of the scalp a few times each day. You will see results. GUARANTEED!

CERTIFIED GUARANTEE

Use the **MEDI-TEC 90™** formula for 30 days. If you do not see the progressive re-growth of hair over the entire balding area of your scalp, the same re-growth of hair experienced by others who have used the **MEDI-TEC 90™** formula. Return for a prompt and full refund.

ORDER THE MEDI-TEC 90™ FORMULA NOW!

Order now! **MEDI-TEC 90™** will work for you. You have nothing to lose but the time it takes for you to fill out and mail the coupon below.

A full head of healthy hair is worth the effort.

Thank you,
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Mail To: THE ROBERTSON-TAYLOR CO.
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Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33311 VSG-MT

Dundee vs. Lawler

(Continued from Page 8)



Bill Dundee struggles to relieve Jerry Lawler of a chain he sneaked into the ring (above left). Lawler has the wind knocked out of him by a Dundee shoulder drive (above right).

"Hell, what does it matter if I wrestle Bockwinkel or Jerry does," said Dundee. "It's the same. As long as one of us gets a shot, I'm happy."

Lawler, however, did not share that assessment.

"He stabbed me in the back," screamed Lawler. "I trusted him and he sneaks behind my back and steals my title shot. You can tell that whimp that we're through. Tell him if he wants to talk to me, he can do it in

the ring."

When Dundee heard Lawler's reaction, he was puzzled.

"I don't know why Jerry is so bent out of shape," he said. "He's still my bosom buddy. Come on, if I get a chance at a championship, I'm gonna take it. This has nothing to do with our friendship. Jerry should be professional enough to understand and appreciate that."

Phone calls were met by

Lawler drapes Dundee across the turnbuckles and stomps away. Jealousy destroyed their friendship.

Lawler's silence. Letters were returned shredded. It was as if Lawler had blotted Dundee out of his life. Forever.

One communication remained. It was depersonalized, so sterile that Dundee confessed tears leaped to his eyes when he learned of it. This was a match between Lawler and Dundee.

"At that point, I still hoped we could work something out," Dundee said sadly.

Into the ring Dundee carried the branch of peace. He extended his hand to Lawler, who sneered at it and let loose with a flurry of blows. Though dazed, Dundee would not deviate from his mission.

"I wanted Jerry to know we were still friends," Dundee said.

Lawler took a steel chain into the ring. Dundee grabbed it away and tossed the chain out of the squared circle. Undaunted, Lawler brought a second chain between the



Lawler used a chain to open a cut over Dundee's right eye and then went to work on the gash with a series of lefts (above left). Dundee is brutally beaten (above right), but refused to use illegal tactics against Lawler. He still hopes their friendship can be renewed.

Skinny Men and Women

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with bodybuilding champ, Chris Sabatino's **BODY BUILDER-P**

THE THINNER YOU ARE, THE MORE YOU HAVE TO GAIN!

• At last, the weight gain program that you've been waiting for. If you've tried everything you could think of...and tried...and tried...and couldn't gain weight, **Body Builder-P** is for you!

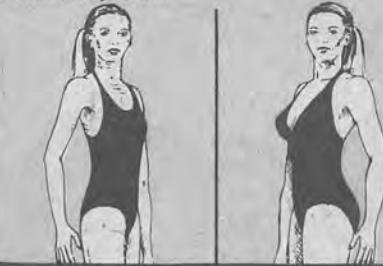
• If you've been waiting for the right weight gain product, the one that will work with your body (not against it) to put on extra pounds as fast as you possibly can, **Body Builder-P** is for you!

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FOR WOMEN

Think about it...knobby legs...flat chest...no hips...sunken face...the list goes on!

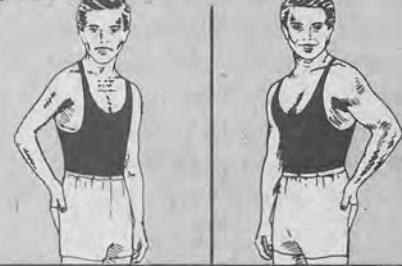
Why worry and hide in baggy clothes when you could be showing off a beautiful body! You'll see what a difference **Body Builder-P** can make in just one week! You can look forward to those feminine curves...see the seductive new you blossom right before your eyes...and just as important...right before his eyes too!



FOR MEN

Spindly legs...weakling arms...scrawny chest...don't suffer when you can do something about it and become the man you want to be.

Women love men with some "meat on their bones." And you'll feel a new sense of pride and self confidence when your fantastic full, masculine body appears quickly...right before your eyes...and just as important...right before her eyes too!



WHICH BODY DO YOU WANT?!

WOMEN—If you picked the curvaceous, full figured body, but right now your chest is too flat, your legs are too thin, and your hips don't exist, **Body Builder-P** will change your life!

THIN and BONY to BODY BEAUTIFUL



Chris Sabatino, 1981, Class I NBA, Teenage Mr. America

"I was down to 135 lbs. of skin and bone when I built up 37 lbs. of muscle and became a champion. Now, you can use my **Body Builder-P** as part of your exercise program to gain weight and put some flesh on those bones. Girls, add curves, fill out, and get the figure you always wanted. Men, add inches of muscle and get an impressive manly body. You can do it! But don't wait. Order NOW!"

YOU HAVE EVERYTHING TO GAIN!

Body Builder-P is used to gain weight (not fat) and build body mass as part of the exercise program of champion body builders like Chris Sabatino, 1981, Class I NBA, Teenage MR. AMERICA.

This high powered natural food supplement contains rich protein, concentrated and fortified with 12 vitamins and 7 minerals, as well as all 8 essential amino acids. It blends into a delicious shake with juice or milk. And, it gives you added energy and leaves you feeling great!

You'll be amazed! This incredible formula goes to work immediately. Start to see results THE VERY FIRST DAY! In just a few days, you'll be looking at yourself in the mirror and you'll start to understand the incredible power of **Body Builder-P**! Then you'll get on the scale and realize that you've added pounds and pounds of impressive, attractive flesh.

So, don't wait even one more minute. Order your **Body Builder-P** NOW! If for any reason you're not 100% satisfied, simply return the unused portion within 30 days for a prompt refund (less p&h, of course), NO QUESTIONS ASKED! Don't delay. Mail in the coupon today!

MEN—If you picked the handsome, manly body, but right now you look like a skinny weakling, **Body Builder-P** will make you the man you want to be!

© 1982 The Body Shoppe, Inc. 111 Brook St., Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583

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P.O. Box 1046, Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583

Yes, I want to gain weight fast! Rush my **Body Builder-P** as indicated below. If I am not 100% satisfied, I can return the unused portion within 30 days for a prompt refund, NO QUESTIONS ASKED! My check or M.O. is enclosed (NY & Ct. residents add sales tax)

#928, 7 day supply of **Body Builder-P** at \$9.95 + \$1.75 p&h (Total: \$11.70)

#9282, 14 day supply of **Body Builder-P** at \$18.95 + \$2.85 p&h (Total: \$21.80)

#9283, 21 day supply of **Body Builder-P** at \$27.50 + \$3.50 p&h (Total: \$31.00)

Mr. Mrs.
Miss Ms. _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

M.C. VISA (min. \$20) Expir. date _____

Account # _____

INTRODUCING EDDIE GILBERT

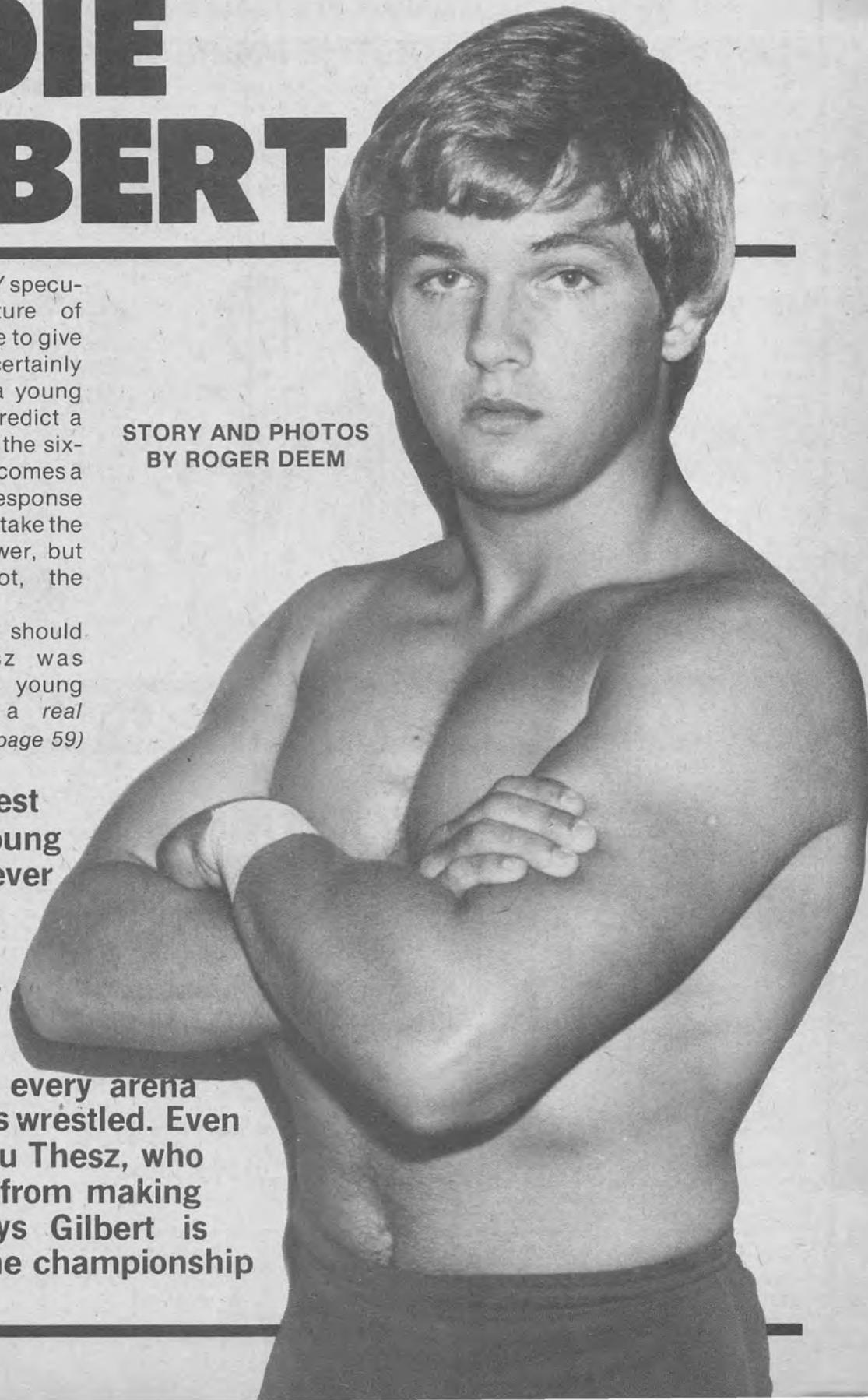
L OU THESZ RARELY speculates on the future of a wrestler. He is not one to give false praise and he is certainly not one to put down a young wrestler. Ask him to predict a wrestler's success and the six-time NWA champion becomes a master politician. His response will be enough words to take the appearance of an answer, but more often than not, the question still remains.

Young Eddie Gilbert should be flattered. Thesz was questioned about the young prospect and gave a *real*

(Continued on page 59)

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY ROGER DEEM

He's had the best teachers any young wrestler could ever hope for, the most influential being his father. Eddie Gilbert has received rave reviews in every arena in which he has wrestled. Even the immortal Lou Thesz, who usually refrains from making predictions, says Gilbert is destined for the championship



Lose 4-6 inches of bulging fat BEFORE we cash your check!

Let the Shrink Wrap System reduce
a combination of your waist and hips; NOW!

Let Us Take the Risk

Just fill out the coupon and postdate your check for 30 days from today! You'll pay nothing now (not for 30 days), but we will send you our Shrink Wrap System! Try it. Use it. Watch inches disappear. If for any reason you are not delighted, send it back. We will return your check or money order, UNCASHED! Even if you send it back later, we'll still refund your purchase price. Over 328,000 satisfied customers make us bold enough to make this super guarantee!

Slim Down Scientifically Without Starving!

That's right! 4-6 inches starting the very first day! Science has known about this principle for years. In fact, right now, professional and amateur athletes the world over are using it in their training programs. And many famous entertainers who have to trim down fast rely on this method. Now, you can use it to melt inches off your waist, . . . your hips, . . . anywhere!

Skin Diver's Discovery

Many years ago, skin divers noticed that when they changed from their wet suit to street clothes, their pants were loose and their weight was many pounds less! A scientist found three reasons—

1. A wet suit is worn snugly, resulting in an isometric effect that can actually add tone to loose muscle tissue. *Shrink Wrap is adjustable so you can put the isometric effect to work for you immediately!*
2. Wet suit rubber provides insulation and retains body heat, so they burned calories faster. And, they couldn't snack, so they burned off body fat. *Shrink Wrap is*

made from this same rubber and you'll burn fat off your body faster by using it to modify eating patterns.

3. Diving and swimming burn additional calories and amplified the heating effect of the special rubber. *Shrink Wrap comes with its own easy exercise program for you to shed unsightly inches even more rapidly.*

Don't Hold Fat In . . . Lose It!

If you want to go even further, the Shrink Wrap System will do it with you. Our special fastening system allows Shrink Wrap to adjust to your new size as you shrink away. And your waistline, hips, and other problem areas will continue to shrink when you use the Shrink Wrap System lo-cal eating plans that won't leave you hungry. There's something for every lifestyle. You can use it as often as you need it to keep those inches off.

Not a Cheap Imitation

Shrink Wrap's strong, quality construction has added benefits which give soothing, invigorating support to tired, tense back muscles, while helping you trim away inches easily and comfortably. Just one look at our distinctive waistbelt and you know you're getting the rubber actually used by our astronauts for insulation in training. And, it's soft and washable too.

Remember, plastics and elastics are merely flimsy imitations. Girdles just squeeze it in. But the Shrink Wrap System takes it off . . . fast! It's working right now for thousands of satisfied buyers and it can work for you, if you order now!



**over 328,000 sold
was \$19.99
now only**

\$9.99!

Real People Lose Pounds and Inches!

Here are the impressive stories (all sworn and notarized) of a few outstanding users. Everyone may not do as well, but if they can do this well, just

think how many pounds and inches you will lose quickly with the Shrink Wrap System!™



Mr. Douglas Fink—Asheville, N.C.

"I lost 6 inches in 16 days! I've worn it to work, playing softball, tennis, exercising, and just about anything I want to do. My weight dropped 13 pounds! I lost 4 inches from my waist alone!"



Mrs. Mildred C. Cable—Land O'Lakes, Fla.

"I went from a size 20½ dress down to a 12! I tried every method. With Shrink Wrap, the exercise program and a sensible diet, I lost 52 pounds! I lost 8 inches from my waist and 11 inches from my hips! Now, I tell all my friends about the Shrink Wrap System!"



Ms. Loretta Dene Fair—Pontiac, Mich.

"My total inches lost were 34½" off waist and hips! I've been overweight for as long as I can remember. The Shrink Wrap System worked miracles! 18½" off my waist, 16" off my hips, all in only 8 months. Shrink Wrap even helped me to stop overeating and stop snacking. I lost 124 pounds! I'm a new woman!"

James Carlisle—Manager, Karate School of Champions, Wilkinsburg, Pa.

"My students used the Shrink Wrap System and literally melted away inches from their waist and hips!"

...more real people

Dr. J. Lee Briers—New Castle, Delaware

"I lost 5" from my waist and 6" from my hips over a 12 day period. My weight loss was 18 lbs."

Helena Smith—Vandalia, Mich.

I lost 5" off my waist and 5" off my hips! I'm amazed at the way the Shrink Wrap System works!"

Robert N. Nilsen—Mechanicsburg, Pa.

"I lost 9 pounds and 4 inches off my waist in 2 weeks! It's just unbelievable that it took so little time and effort!"

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111 Brook St., Suite 350, Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583

The New Body Boutique, Inc. Dept BS1301
P.O. Box 1046, Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583

Please rush me the entire Shrink Wrap System™ including the Super Action Shrink Wrap™ belt, easy exercise program, lo-cal eating plans, and methods to modify eating patterns, all at your risk. If for any reason I'm not satisfied, I'll return the complete system within 30 days for a prompt refund, no questions asked! I enclose my check or m.o. Check here if you want us to hold your check or m.o. uncashed for 30 days. (N.Y. & Ct. res. add sales tax.)

Please give us your waist size:

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plus \$1.50 p&h.
(Save \$3) Rush 2 systems at \$17.99
plus \$2 p&h.

Name _____

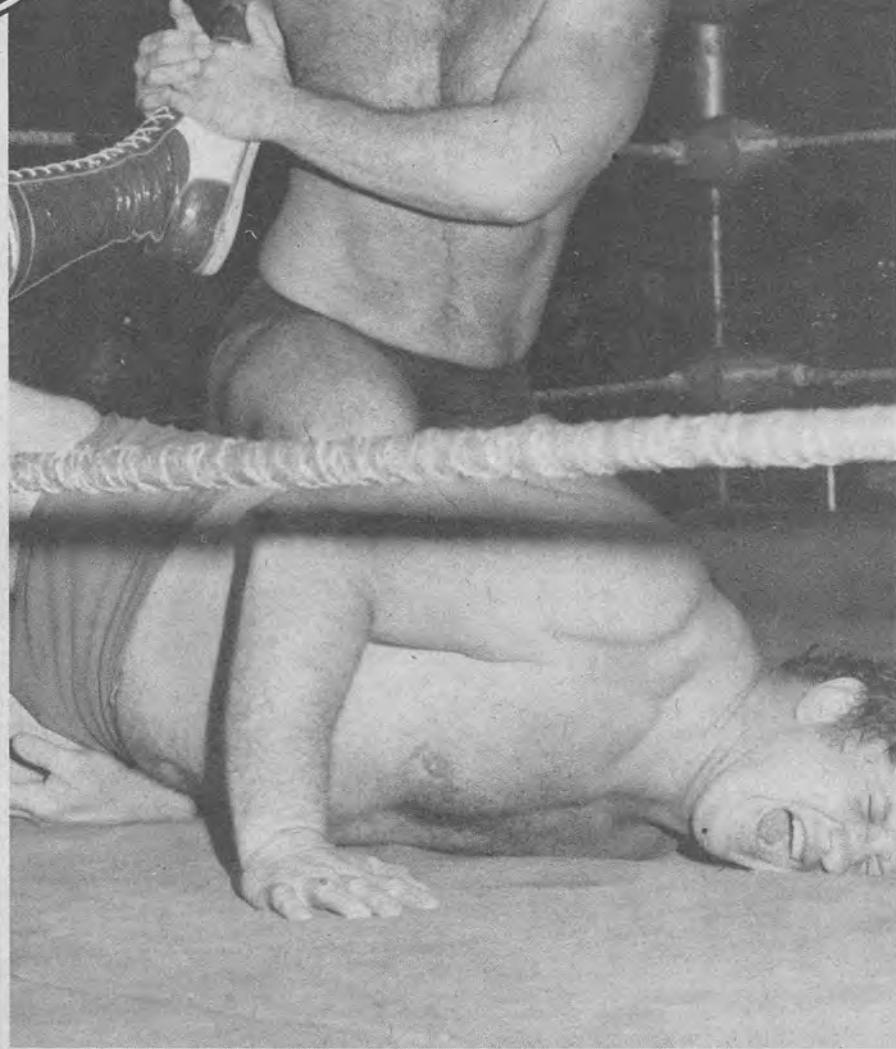
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Terry Funk vs. Mark Lewin



His face showing nothing but rage, Mark Lewin tries to make Terry Funk quit with a beautifully executed toehold.

PHOTOS BY BRAD MCFARLIN

VISITING THE TWO dressing rooms, the stage was being set. The scene in Terry's Funk's dressing room was typical. Terry was slowly and patiently getting dressed. His brother, Dory Jr., was at his side. Dory wasn't whispering any words of encouragement. He was there. That was enough.

Wrestling in Detroit, Terry knew that the great, screaming Texas home crowds that he has grown so fond of over the past few years would not be there to greet him. It didn't matter. He was conditioned well for this match. He was confident. Most important of all, he was wrestling for pride.

"Mark Lewin has been around for years and years," Terry said, speaking of his opponent. "He is ring-wise and knows the sport inside out. But what has Mark Lewin really done in all his years? Years ago he had Don Curtis carrying him. In all the tag team matches it was always Curtis that made the pin or turned the match around. Lewin usually took most of the punishment because he was not good enough. Ever since, either

(Continued on page 18)

PRIDE WAS THE ONLY REWARD

Now—enjoy a life of unbelievable riches, lasting love and constant protection with the secrets in this startling WITCH BOOK—

THE MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT



Whatever it is you need or want, Witchcraft can get it for you quickly, easily, and automatically, say these experts. You'll discover how it can bring abundant and overflowing wealth, find or bring back a lover, ward off evil influences, and much more—step-by-step in plain English, with complete easy-to-follow instructions!

Yes . . . Witchcraft! Every time you hear the word it brings with it the feelings of deep occult secrets—secrets that you would like to know so that your life can be better; so that your enemies will stop bothering you; so that serenity, love, power and comfort can be yours!

THE MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT lays bare these secrets for the first time! Do you want a bank account bursting at the seams with money? A love life that would make a sultan envious? Supreme power to crush your enemies and reward your friends? What would it be worth to you to utter a simple incantation that would cause any pain to vanish? Or say another, and immediately recover some lost object?

What would it be worth to you to fly through time and space, on astral wings, as Witches do . . . go wherever you wish . . . do whatever you wish . . . without being detected . . . watch the antics of others behind closed doors . . . hear private conversations . . . make time run forward or backward . . . read tomorrow's newspaper in a "black mirror" . . . find out what really happened in history . . . make your face old or young at will!

BRINGS AUTOMATIC ASSURED SUCCESS!

Witchcraft can bring your heart's desire! You can use it to heal someone, influence the boss to give you that raise, or make someone stop bothering you! It's easy! The easiest thing in the world! You don't have to be wealthy or super-intelligent to get started! Thousands of ordinary people all over the world are using Witchcraft Power right now!

Witches have known for centuries that people are scared of them and their powers! And rightly so! NOW YOU CAN SHARE THE SAME POWER that gives you—literally—life and death control over other persons! Is someone bothering you? No problem at all, with Magic Witchcraft. For example, there is a spell called the "Cross Not My Path" ritual, for people who are having neighbor trouble. When you use it, you know you will never again have trouble with this neighbor!

With these amazing Witchcraft secrets, other people will look up to you—in awe—you'll automatically dazzle others with your power to make things happen at your will, you'll be Master of your destiny, and never have to apologize to anyone for anything!

Whatever you want or need, whatever frustration is bothering you, Witchcraft will help you. It is not evil—or is it Black Magic. Like electricity, it is simply a power given by nature for the use of men, to make life easier.

You'll see how to get paid without working . . . how to get expensive clothes and furs FREE . . . how to get a first-class plane seat FREE . . . how to vacation at the finest hotels, motels, pools and pleasure palaces, start living like a millionaire as Witches do!

AMAZING TECHNIQUE HAS HELPED THOUSANDS!

Witchcraft secrets like these can make you rich faster than anything else in the world! Here's how others have used them to make

Now! Let This Amazing Witch Book Bring You INFINITE WEALTH, FINE POSSESSIONS, A COMFORTABLE NEW HOME, FINANCIAL SECURITY, LOVE, CONTROL OVER OTHERS, And More—Easily And Automatically!

For centuries, these Witchcraft secrets were hushed up, so that those in power could stay in power! Feudal lords kept their bondsmen as slaves. Factory owners kept their employees in dreaded sweatshops, because these masters knew they must not allow their workers to realize that they needed not labor their lives away. Witchcraft was suppressed because it works! Not because of any "evil" in it. If it hadn't worked, no one would have worried about it. If you want to gain power, all you need is this amazing Witch Book!

By using these Witchcraft secrets, you too can change your life and gain health, wealth, someone to love—or anything else—surely, swiftly and automatically!

* **THE WITCH'S MONEY JAR!**—You'll discover the secret of the Witch's Money Jar, a mysterious jar that fills with money—whenever you want or need it! All you need is some water, pennies, and an ordinary jar or bowl! You'll be amazed at the speed with which it fills with money—a seemingly endless supply of needed cash!

* **THE WITCH'S MONEY MAGNET!**—You'll see how to magnetize a dollar bill so that it multiplies! All you need to make your own Witch's Money Magnet is a dollar bill, a green candle, and the words on page 38. Once you do this, your dollar will double and keep doubling! You'll enjoy glittering luxuries, and start living like a millionaire, as Witches do!

* **THE WITCH'S BLACK MIRROR!**—Just as your TV set has been called your "window on the world," so the Black Mirror is your "window on the psychic world"—the world of the unknown. Making your own personal Black Mirror takes only a few moments and can open the way to unguessable visions. All you need is a bowl of water, some ink, and the chant on page 23. Suddenly you will see scenes from other places and times, or any scene you wish to see!

IN THIS WITCH BOOK YOU'LL DISCOVER . . .

- How to Cast Spells that Really Work!
- Your Magic Window on the World!
- Personal Protection!
- Telepathy Made Easy!
- Influencing Others to Do Your Bidding!
- Controlling a Conversation!
- The Technique of Silent Persuasion!
- Using Witchcraft to Find Friends!
- How to Find the Lover You Want!
- How to Bring Your Perfect Mate to You!
- How to Dominate Others!
- Witchcraft Power for Money!
- Witchcraft Power to Make You Irresistible to Others!
- Spells for Finding Lost Objects!
- How to Always Win with Luck Spells!
- More Power for Bigger Goals!
- Inhalating Cosmic Energy!
- Recharging Your Cosmic Batteries!
- Raising Your Vital Energy Level!
- How to Keep Evil Forces Away!

miracles happen in their daily lives!

You'll see how Vern, a man who likes to give a lot of expensive parties, was always short of cash until he discovered the amazing WITCH'S MONEY JAR—now all he has to do is dip in, for it brings him an endless flow of cash! Evelyn, a waitress, was always lending money to friends, and was always broke. Finally, she placed her last dollar on the table, and worked the MONEY MAGNET SPELL over it. All at once, dozens of people who had borrowed money from her, rushed to pay her back!

Hank was perpetually broke. One night he got together with some friends, and they decided to cast the MONEY SPELL. The very next day, Hank received in the mail a check for some \$250 worth of insurance. (He had never heard of the company that sent the check, he was not insured with them, and had never even made a claim—but he accepted the money.) Another member of the group that used the spell, a 40-year-old secretary, received an automobile as a gift. All the other members of the group received amazing windfalls of money, as well! You'll see how Dexter, a retiree, lives RENT FREE and receives \$200 a week at the age of 78, with a secret you'll find in this Witch Book! You'll see how Claudine, a secretary, was able to wear the finest, most expensive furs—FREE—and spend weekends at an expensive ski lodge in the mountains, where she met a wonderful man! How Ruth L., a widow—with nothing but a small pension, and a little savings—received her dream house, by using a simple 5-minute ritual on page 38 of this book!

Using the same Witchcraft secrets, YOU can achieve peace of mind and freedom from money worries for the rest of your life!

YOU CAN HEAL YOURSELF AS WITCHES DO!

Feeling sick today? Plagued by a lot of troublesome illnesses? Perhaps some relative is sick and constantly demanding your attention? Or perhaps it is even a pet that needs help? With the MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT, you can cure anything, say authors Gavin and Yvonne Frost: "In our experience . . . we have not found a single incurable disease!"

* **ANDY DISSOLVES A GALLSTONE!**—Andy M. developed gallstones. When his illness became too troublesome to ignore, he went to a doctor. Urine tests revealed that he was chronically alkaline. His body was badly out of balance. Using this Witchcraft method to restore balance to the mind and body—in a short while, X-rays showed that he had no more gallstones! Andy never again suffered the excruciating pain of passing stones!

In the same way, say Gavin and Yvonne Frost, almost all illness can be prevented. You are actually employing an ancient Witchcraft method to remove diseased tissue! Even if you do not have any belief in the results, the power will work for you!

One woman, who had been in a wheelchair for 26 years, due to polio and arthritis, used the Witchcraft healing method, and reported that she had no pain and could walk and garden again! A man reported that his son's deep 3rd degree burns miraculously healed overnight!

* **SO SIMPLE A CHILD USES IT!**—A 4-year-old girl asked if she could try to heal a man who was limping—due to a torn ligament—with this simple Witchcraft healing method. In a matter of moments, she started her chant, laying her hands on the weak ankle. The man was miraculously cured! To skeptics, this should be convincing PROOF that anyone can use it!

AMAZING POWER CAN BE YOURS!

Whether you want infinite wealth, or just a comfortable new home, financial security, fine possessions, love, companionship, new health and vigor, power to control others, secret knowledge, protection from evil, or anything else, the magic power of Witchcraft can bring it to you quickly, easily and automatically! It's the easiest thing in the world!

* **HOW TO SEE INTO THE FUTURE!**—Would you like to be able to see the future? You CAN with the magic Black Mirror! You'll see how to make on page 23. All you need is some ink and a bowl of water. Then use the chant on this page, and you will be able to see many things. One man uses it to read tomorrow's newspaper. YOU can use it to check the stock market or that important horse race!

* **MAKE TIME RUN BACKWARD OR FORWARD!**—A

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MEET THE AUTHORS

GAVIN FROST, B.Sc., Ph.D., D.D. is Archbishop of the Church of Wicca, New Bern, North Carolina with national headquarters in Salina, Missouri, branches in several states and worldwide membership. He is Marshal of the Gold Star of England, with the right to wear the Saffron Robe and one of the very few Witches in the Western Hemisphere privileged to wear the authentic mark of initiation on his wrist. Although descended from a long line of mystics and scholars, and formerly a Vice-President and Director of International Operations for major aerospace companies, he prefers to be thought of as a humble teacher.

Mrs. YVONNE FROST, A.A., D.D., with her husband Gavin Frost, devotes her time to giving private instruction and publishing *Survival*, the newsletter of the Church of Wicca, of which she is a Bishop.

Articles by or about Gavin and Yvonne Frost have appeared in such national publications as *Midnight* and the *National Enquirer*.

FREE . . . The Witches Protection Amulet For Just Examining The Witch Book . . .



When you receive your copy of THE MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT, we will send you the witches protection pentagon medallion (See p. 26) that will protect you from evil. Whether you keep the book or not, this handsome, powerful amulet is yours as a gift. So send in this no-risk coupon right now!

Witch uses ancient methods to make time stand still or to run it backward or forward! To make your face look young or old at will, all you need is some morning dew, and the instructions on page 27. You can fly through time and space, on astral wings, go anywhere, do anything, with the simple method on page 126. You can visit a friend, look in on an acquaintance and see what he is doing—even appear in someone's dreams, and convince that person to do whatever you wish!

* **SECRETS OF SILENT PERSUASION!**—There is a magic handshake that Witches often use, revealed on page 62. With this secret, you can implant a thought in someone's mind! You can use this Witchcraft power to dominate others! Control your boss! Make someone love you! Leave your enemies groveling in the dust! There is even a gazing technique Witches use on page 45, for identical thoughts. With this secret, you can read your friend's mind and share his or her identical thoughts!

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Witchcraft can make you rich, even in a ghetto! You should never have to worry about the rent, or where the next dollar is coming from, never have to apologize to a boss! No matter how poor you are now, THE MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT can bring you a life filled to the brim with pleasure, wealth, and all the glittering luxuries of the world! To get your copy of this amazing Witch Book, simply fill out and mail the no-risk coupon!

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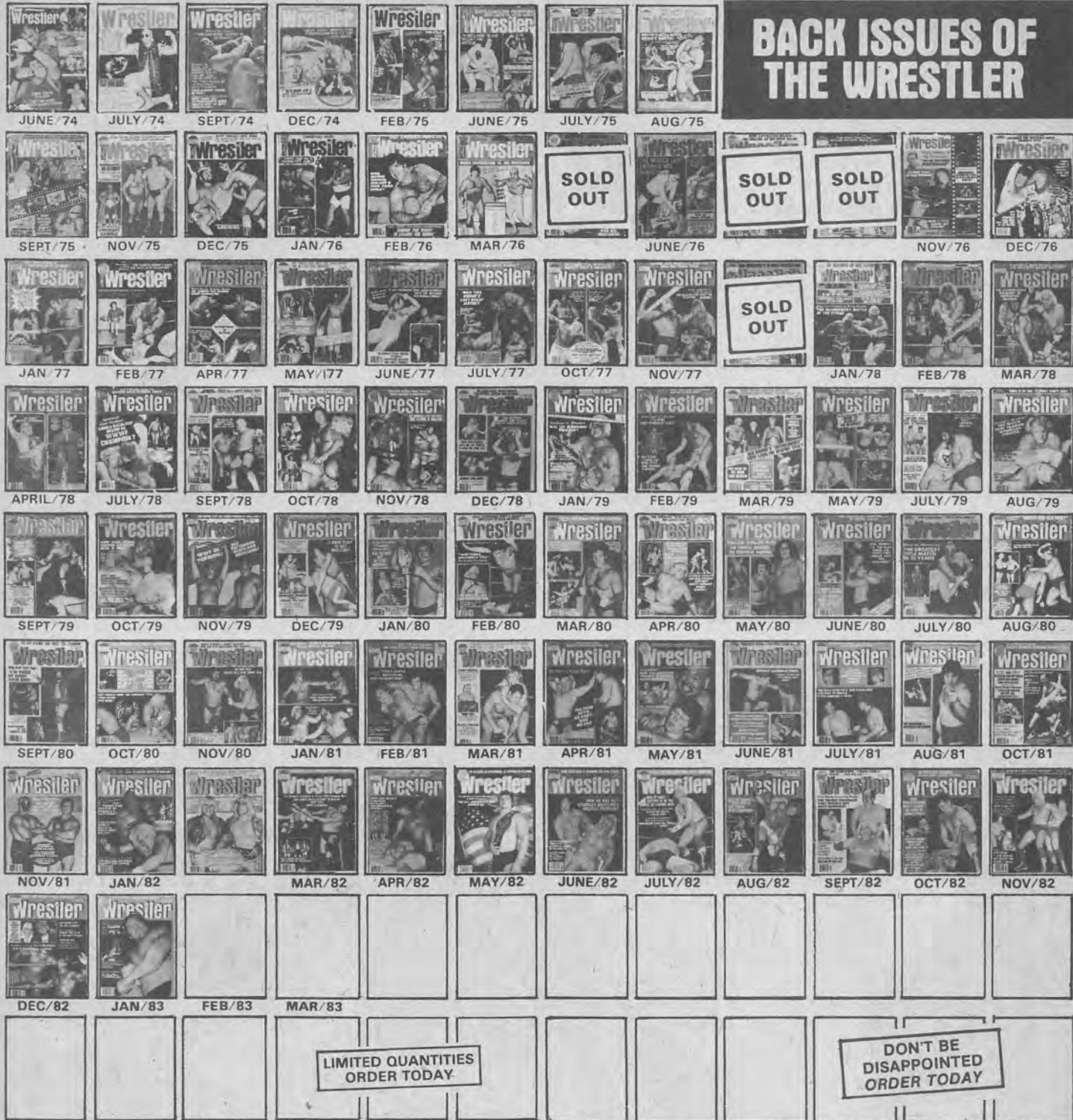
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| <input type="checkbox"/> DEC/74 | <input type="checkbox"/> FEB/77 | <input type="checkbox"/> FEB/79 | <input type="checkbox"/> OCT/80 | <input type="checkbox"/> JUNE/82 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FEB/75 | <input type="checkbox"/> APRIL/77 | <input type="checkbox"/> MAR/79 | <input type="checkbox"/> NOV/80 | <input type="checkbox"/> JULY/82 |
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PRICES EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 1981

Funk vs. Lewin

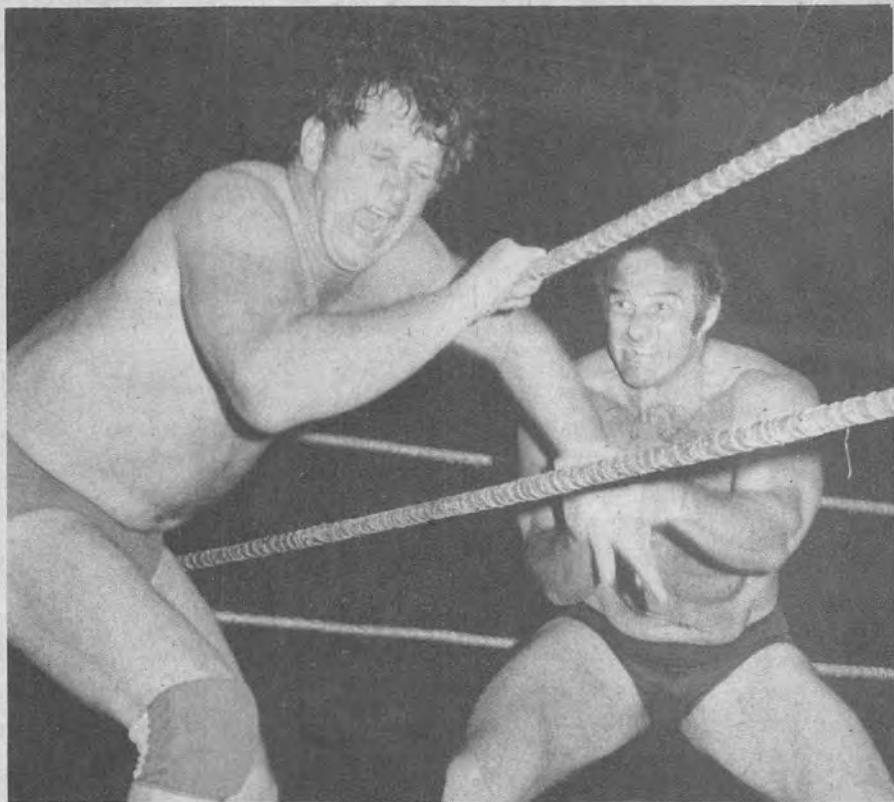
(Continued from Page 14)

tag team partners have saved or carried him, or his lack of real substantial talent has kept him from going anywhere."

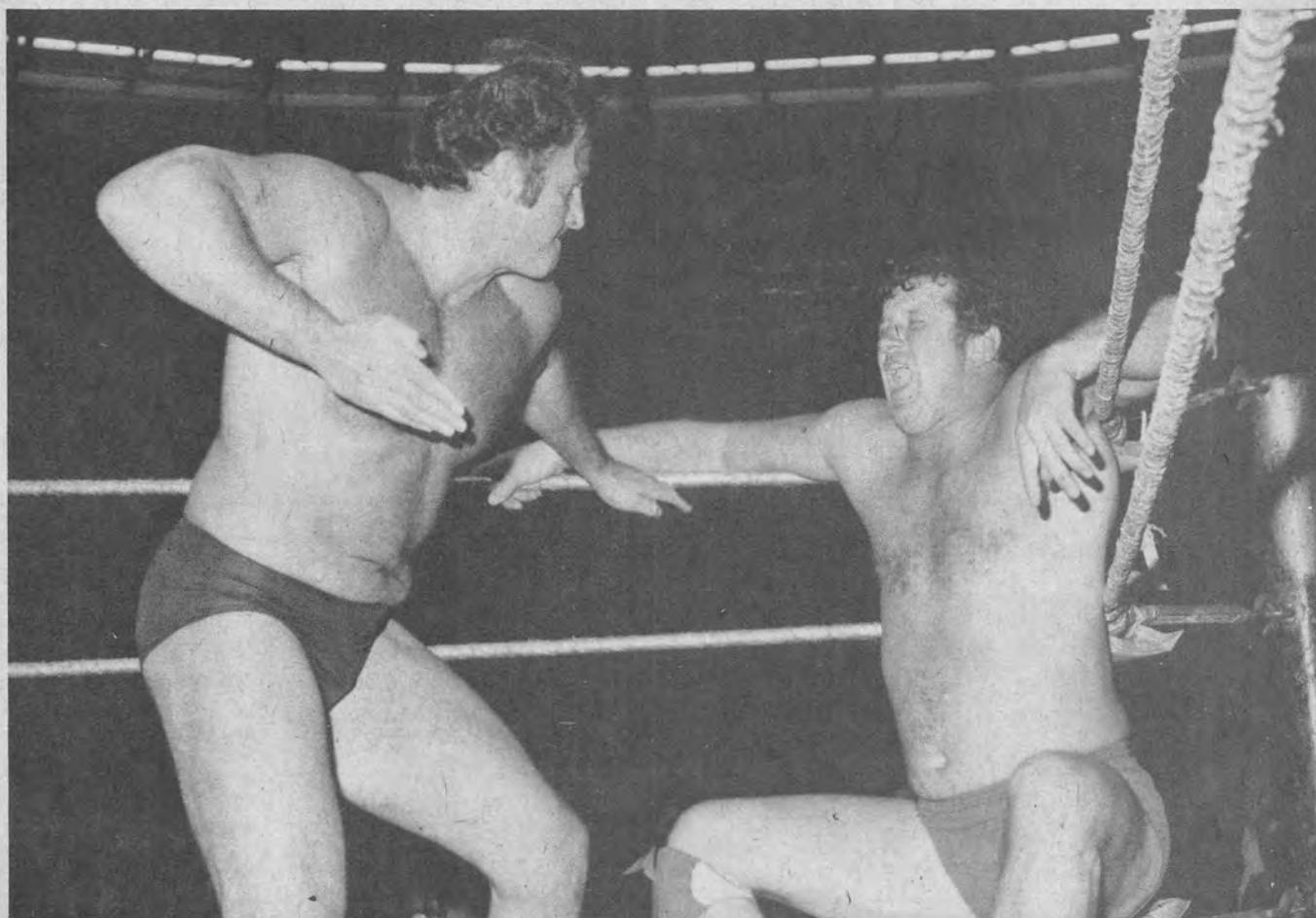
Funk speaks with confidence. None of the Funks have ever feared anyone in the sport. They say what they feel and deal with the consequences when the time arrives. They are still around, so no one can argue with their methods. But on this particular night, Terry Funk's words would be answered by Mark Lewin personally.

"I'm very glad I'm wrestling Terry Funk tonight," Mark said, minutes before he would make his way to the ring. "He has a typical Funk mouth. Big and loud and full of lies. In all their years together, they only have had two things going for them. One is their mouths, which make all the

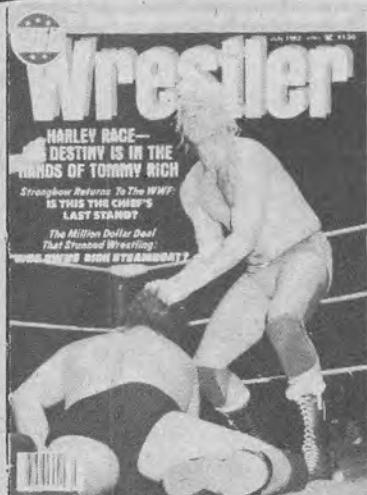
(Continued on page 52)



Funk scurries for the safety of the ring apron (above), but finds no comfort there! In a corner, Funk is helpless to prevent Mark's karate thrusts (below).



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Backlund vs. Race:

Two brilliant warriors, Bob Backlund and Harley Race have met once. Backlund was a newly-crowned champion.

Race was an overconfident king. The result was inconclusive. As their championship reigns extend endlessly, the public wants a rematch.

Only one man has the ability to make this dream match come true

THE ONLY MAN WHO COULD FORCE THEM TO

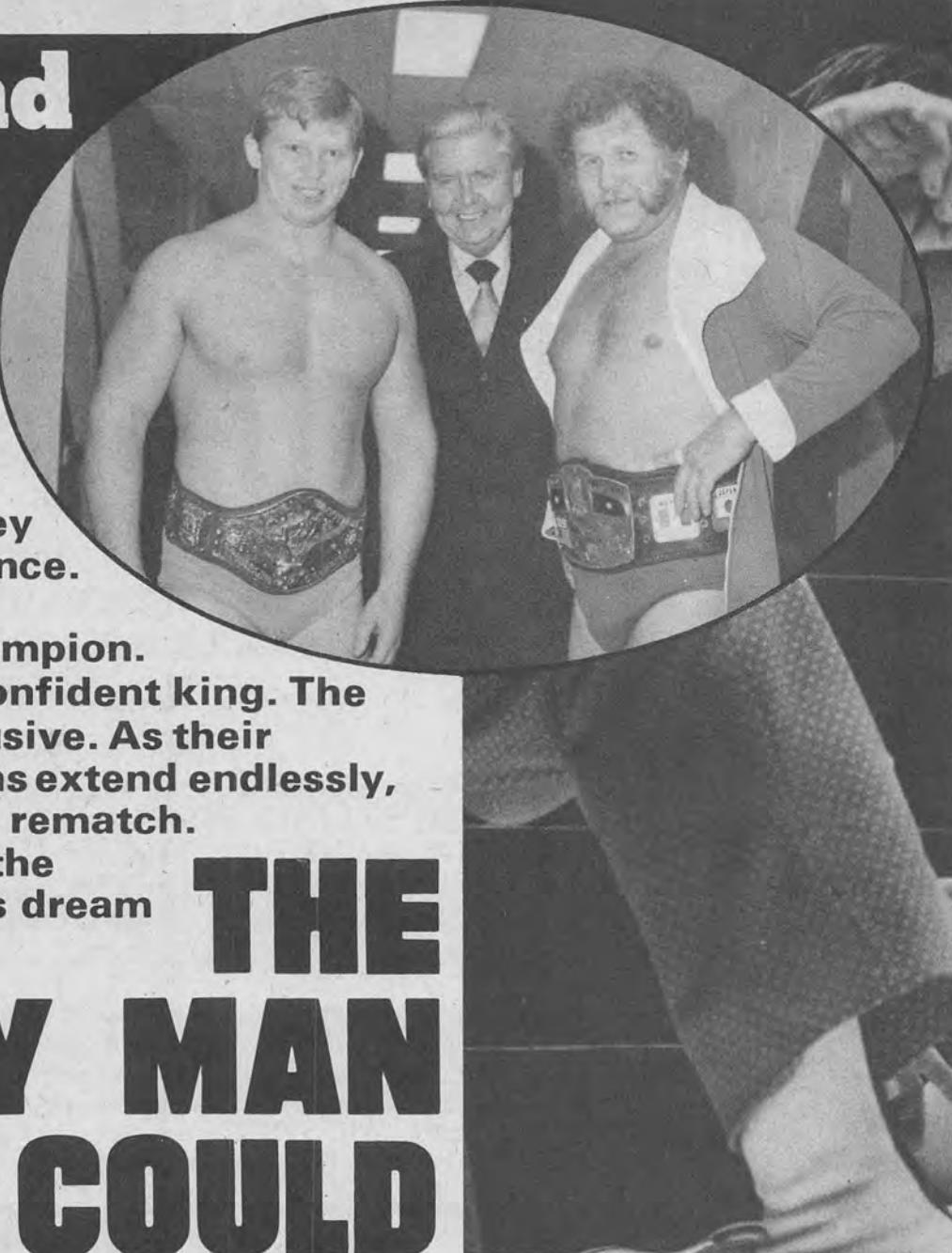
HARLEY RACE. A champion who may never relinquish his title. The long-time NWA king has stunned the wrestling establishment with a title reign of considerable length and achievement. A rulebreaker with an unexplainable ability to make the right move at the right time, he is well versed in scientific wrestling. He beats his challengers at whatever game they choose. Unbeatable? Maybe. At best, there

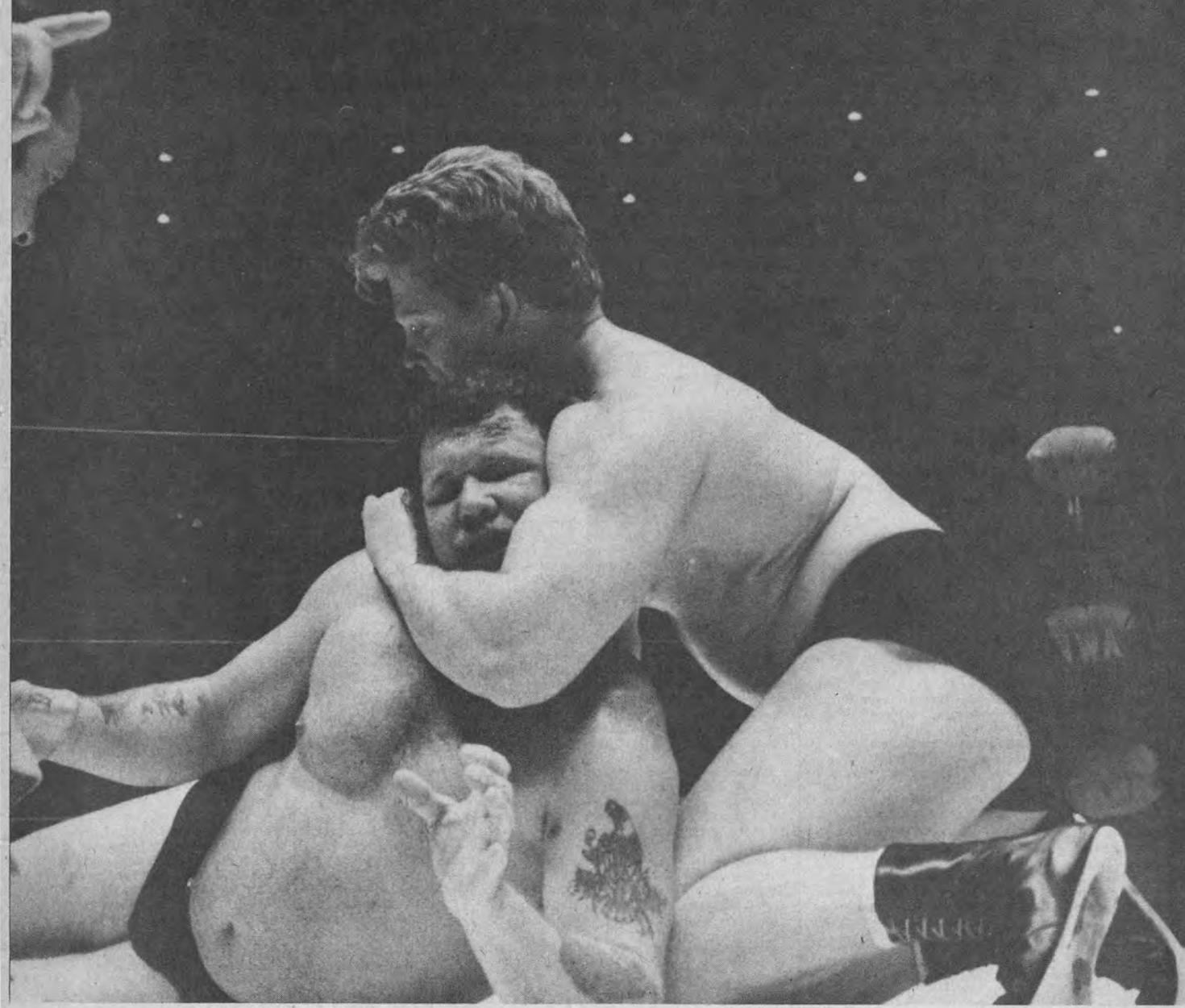
are only two or three wrestlers in the world who are serious threats to his ownership of the diamond-studded NWA belt. One of those men is Bob Backlund.

Bob Backlund. A young champion who has convincingly beat back every rugged opponent WWF promoters have brought forth. A scientific wrestler with speed, intelligence, and an uncanny sense for survival. His critics have slowly disappeared.

His challengers are also vanishing, a frustrated band of rulebreakers who cannot understand how a young wrestler can be so good. Backlund may have already conquered the WWF. New wrestlers must be found to test his championship qualities. Most are hesitant. Harley Race is anxious.

Only one man in the entire world has the respect, business skills, and power to bring these two great champions together in a "dream





WRESTLE

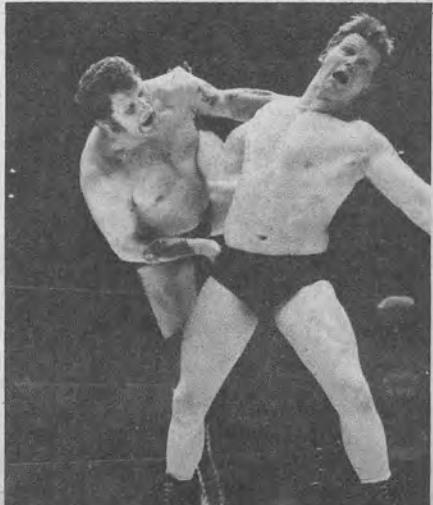
match." The man is a handsome, silver-haired promoter by the name of Vince McMahon Sr. While Backlund and Race play a wild game of bluffing, McMahon holds the key cards. Will the match ever be realized? The world waits with wide-eyed wonder.

"Of course I'd like to see a Backlund-Race match," noted McMahon. "It would be one of the most interesting matchups in wrestling today. Of course many

items have to be considered. We aren't exactly talking about two preliminary wrestlers here. Backlund is a champion. Race is a champion. Neither wants to lose his belt. Also, where is the match held? An NWA arena or stadium wouldn't be fair to Bobby and a WWF site wouldn't be fair to Harley. Of course a neutral site would be fair, but regional fan interest would be decreased. Also,

(Continued on page 54)

A young Bob Backlund and Harley Race met in Florida (above). The result was a draw. Backlund exhibits an excellent scientific maneuver (below). Only Vince McMahon could bring them together for a rematch. We hope he succeeds.



COLLECTOR'S CORNER

Some of the back issues in this ad have not been offered for sale for more than 25 years. All of these extremely rare magazines are from the personal collection of Stanley Weston, owner of the world's largest collection of wrestling memorabilia. This is indeed a once in a lifetime opportunity for the true collector to finally own these highly treasured but until now elusive editions. Obviously, the supplies of these issues is very limited, and they will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. It is for that reason we urge you to list substitute choices when you order. This will avoid time wasted writing back and forth should a particular issue be sold out. The prices quoted are based on the rarity of the issue and the amount of available copies. For fastest service, payment should be made by money order or certified check. While cash will be accepted, we cannot assume responsibility when it is sent through the mails. All sales are final and no exchanges will be made.

BOXING & WRESTLING

After five issues, WRESTLING magazine changed its name to BOXING & WRESTLING. Continuing its high standard in wrestling, the addition of boxing stories made it one of the most popular sports magazines of the '50s. Some of the back issues listed in this ad can be obtained now by the general public for the first time in more than 25 years. As you would expect, supplies are very, very limited.

JANUARY 1952 Boxing—Pep vs. Saddler, Gans vs. Kid Lavigne, Robinson vs. Turpin, Mickey Walker, Tricksters, Tony Janiro, Verne Ross's Record, Tex Rickard, Roland LaStarza, Leonard vs. Kilbane, Rocky Marciano, Ratings, Knockouts
Wrestling—Yvon Robert, Wrestling Whirl, Sky Hi Lee, Matches of the Month, Pacific Coast Championship, George Hackenschmidt, Indian Wrestlers, Ruffy Silverstein, Ratings, Londos vs. Shikat \$25

JUNE 1952 Boxing—Fights of the Month, Gil Turner, Max Schmelting, Jack Johnson, Ratings, Stillman's Gym, Chico Vejar, Flyweights and Bantamweights, Tex Rickard Story, Paddy DeMarco, Max Baer's Record
Wrestling—Lord Carlton, Ratings, Mars Bennett, Human Sides, Tony Lanza, Wrestling Whirl, Good Old Days, Whipper Watson, Matches of Month, San Francisco Promoter Joe Malcewicz \$25

AUGUST 1952 Boxing—Highlights, Paddy Young, Sammy Mandell, Trainer Doc Bagler, Jack Dempsey, Keeny Teran and Gil Cadilli, Tex Rickard Story, Lew Tendler, TV From Miami, From Knockdown To Victory, Ratings
Wrestling—Dirty Dick Raines, Good Old Days, Whipper Watson, How Girl Wrestlers Keep Fit, Ratings, Adrian Baillargeon, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of Month, Mighty Atlas \$25

SEPTEMBER 1952 Boxing—Highlights, Fighting Italians, George Araujo, Pancho Villa, Trainer Charlie Goldman, Willie Troy, Ratings, Boxing Confidential, Gene Tunney, Jackie Fields
Wrestling—Bobby Managoff, Lou Thesz's Record, Ratings, Matches of Month, Tim Geohagen, William Muldoon, Wrestling Whirl \$25

OCTOBER 1952 Boxing—Highlights (Walcott vs. Charles, Carter loses to Salas, etc.), Lauro Salas, Stanley Ketchel, Irish Champions, Chuck Davey, Max Schmelting, Ratings, Joe Miceli, Strange Experiences, Willie Pep tells about his loss to Sandy Saddler, Boxing Medicine Man Dr. Nardiello
Wrestling—Riki Dozan, Their Hardest Battles, Matches of Month, Ray Gunkel, Tough Turks, Wrestling Whirl, Ratings, Record of Verne Gagne \$25

DECEMBER 1952 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Matches of Month, Cisco Andrade, Ezzard Charles writes about Marciano, Bare Knuckle Fighters, Tony DeMarco, Jimmy Braddock, Maxie Rosenbloom's Life, Paul Andrews, Tony Galento vs. Lou Nova, Benny Leonard, Quiz, Dempsey vs. Fred Fulton, Quiz
Wrestling—Bob Orton, Matches of Month, Cowboy Carlson, Mars Bennett, California Champs, Al Costello, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, Fan Clubs \$25

FEBRUARY 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Nino Valdez Says "I'll Beat Marciano," Billy Petrolle's Life, Carmen Basilio Challenges Johnny Saxton, Bare Knuckle Fighters, Lou Stillman, Jim Corbett vs. Joe Choynski, Jack Delany, Jack Johnson Compared to Modern Fighters, Why Black Fighters Are Tops, Quiz, Ratings, Jimmy McLarnin
Wrestling—Billy Varga, Ratings, Violet Viann, Verne Gagne, Speaks Out, Matches of Month, Sonny Myers, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, How To Start A Fan Club \$25

MARCH 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Kid Gavilan, Cisco Andrade, Eugene Criqui, Ratings, Writer Dan Parker, Best Heavyweight Of All, Charley Powell, Yogi Griffis, Kid McCoy vs. Tomy Sharkey, Willie Ritchie, Quiz, Pedro Montanez
Wrestling—Gorgeous George, Matches of Month, Jack Witzig, Ike Eakins, Texas Tough Guys, Little Black Dynamite, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs \$25

APRIL 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Archie Moore Blasts Marciano, Robert Cohen, Joe Choynski's Life, Strike By Managers' Guild, "Boardwalk" Billy Smith, Ad Wolgast vs. Joe Rivers, Fake Fights, St. Nicks Arena, TV Fights of 1954, Paul Berlenbach, Quiz, Ratings \$25

JUNE 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Eduardo Lause, Tony Canzoneri's Life, Tiger Jones and Bobby Jones, How Marciano Is Managed, Lou Brouillard's Life, Bob Baker, Matchmaker Teddy Brenner, Ten Deadliest Punches, Tommy Ryan vs. Sandow, Ruby Goldstein, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Yukon Eric, Pacific Coast Powerhouses, Billy Goetz, Wrestling Whirl, Manuel Cortez, Matches of Month, Bob Geigel, Fan Clubs, Full Color Pinup of Billy Varga \$25

JULY 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Rocky Marciano Crushes Don Cockell, Fights of Month, Chico Vejar, Tony Canzoneri's Life (conclusion), Carmen Basilio describes his war with Tony DeMarco, Fight Nite At St. Nicks, Jimmy Soo, Fantasy Fight with Joe Walcott, Ludwig Lightburn, Benny Leonard vs. Ever Hammer, Philadelphia Jack O'Brien, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—"Tiger" Joe Marsh, Matches of Month, Timmy Geohagen, TV Stars, Yukon Eric Tells How To Build Muscles, Was Henri DeGlané a Nazi? Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Full Color Pinup of Frankie Talaber \$25

AUGUST 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Floyd Patterson, Tony DeMarco, Boxing's Mouthpiece, Mickey Walker, Joe Rowan, Fritzie Zivic batters Henry Armstrong, Fighting Irish, Joey Lopes, Sam Langford vs. Stanley Ketchel, Quiz, Luis Firpo, Ratings
Wrestling—"Legs" Langevin, Yukon Eric, Matches of Month, Promoter Eddie Quinn, Most Dangerous Holds, Joe Cassius, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, Full Color Pin Up Of Leo Nomellini \$25

SEPTEMBER 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Rocky Castellani, Promoter Jim Norris, Fight Afternoon, Rudy Garcia, Abe Attell, Billy Graham Quits, Terry McGovern vs. Pedler Palmer, Pat McMurtry, Al Singer, Willie Jackson, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Leo Nomellini, Do Black Wrestlers Get Fair Shake? Matches of Month, Crazy Kalmikoffs, Hans Schnabel, Wrestling Whirl, Al & Tiny Mills, Gossip, Wrestling Stinks! Full Color Pin Up of Big Bill Miller \$25

OCTOBER 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, The Real Marciano, Frankie Carbo, Carmen Basilio, John L. Sullivan vs. Charley Mitchell, Carmelo Costa, Jack Dempsey (Part 1), Paddy Young, Archie Moore, Al Singer, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Hans Herman, Matches of Month, Strangler Lewis, One World's Title! Sky Hi Lee, Wrestling Whirl, Kamikaze Kinji, Hans Schmidt, Full Color Pin Up of Lord Blears \$25

NOVEMBER 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Marciano Kayoes Archie Moore, Fights of Month, Willie Pastrano, What Made Dempsey A Killer? "Bud" Smith, Yama Bahama, Joe Gans vs. Rufe Turner, Strategy, Tony Puleo, Great Trainers, Ratings, Johnny Dundee, Johnny Kilbane, Quiz

Wrestling—Riki Dozan, Matches of Month, Don Arnold, Colorful Characters, Hindu Wrestlers, Chris Tolos, Malcolm Brenner, Full Color Pin Up of Pat O'Connor \$25

JANUARY 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Joey Giambra upsets Bobo Olson, Joe Lynch, Ray Drake, Mystery of Joe Walcott Solved, Training Camps, Jimmy Slattery, Chris Christensen, Bare Knuckle Brawl-Tom Johnson vs. Isaac Perrins, Petey Sarron, Charley White, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Why Women Wrestle, Wrestling Whirl, Bill Fletcher, Ivan Padubny, Bearded Wrestlers, Matches of Month, Art Michalek, Gossip, Fan Clubs \$25

MARCH 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Chuck Spieser, Isaac Logart, Ratings, Luis Firpo's Life, Raton Macias, Jim Jeffries vs. Jim Corbett, Tiger Jones, Boxing Lesson, Review of 1955, Frankie Genaro, Quiz
Wrestling—Leo "The Lion" Newman, Matches of Month, Doc Gallagher, Terrible Turk, Breast Cancer and Girl Wrestlers, Barefoot Wrestlers, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, Wives of Wrestlers \$25

APRIL 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Carmen Basilio, Commissioner Helfand, Pete Herman, Regaining Titles, Bobby Boyd, Ace Hudkins' Life, George Dixon vs. Solly Smith, Joe Benjamin, Louis "Kid" Kaplan, Quiz \$25

MAY 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, How Floyd Patterson Will Fight Marciano, Ray Robinson's Problems, Jackie "Kid" Berg's Life, Yama Bahama, "Kid" Lavigne, Combating TV, Sam Langford, Bob Murphy, Boxing Lesson, Carl Tremaine, Ratings, Quiz
Wrestling—Rocca, Ada Ash, Matches of Month, Old Timers, Prince Maivia, Wrestling Whirl, Jerry Graham, Red Bastien, Gossip \$25

JUNE 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Cisco Andrade, Ludwig Lightburn, Remembering Chicago, Tony Zale's Life, Roy Calhoun, Quiz, Ratings, Tom Sharkey vs. Peter Maher by Jim Corbett, Aurelio Herrera, Dave Shade, Readers' Gripe
Wrestling—"Hard Boiled" Haggerty, Wrestling Whirl, John Pesek, Killer Kowalski, Texas Hot Spot, Powerhouses, Matches of Month, Fan Clubs, Gossip \$25

JULY 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Rocky Marciano, Max Schmelting's Life, Johnny Saxton, John L. Sullivan, Miguel Berrios, Larry Boardman, Quiz, Ratings, Joe Gans vs. "Elbows" McCadden, Hollywood Legion Stadium, Ritchie Mitchell
Wrestling—Lord Blears, Matches of Month, Mexican Stars, Ramona TeSelle, Danno O'Mahoney, Wrestling Whirl, Roy Shire, TV Wrestling, Gossip \$25

AUGUST 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Tony DeMarco, Bob Fitzsimmons vs. Peter Maher, Cherif Hamia, John Holman, Jess Willard's Life, Bucking TV, Johnny Summerlin, Joe Choynski, Earl Mastro, Ratings, Bob Armstrong, Quiz, Gossip
Wrestling—George Drake, Wrestling Whirl, Chief Kit Fox, Matches of Month, Yvon Robert (Part 1), Why Wrestlers Bleach Their Hair, Bob Geigel, Gossip \$25

OCTOBER 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Willie Pastrano, Henry Armstrong's Life, Archie Moore, Jimmy McLarnin, Charley Joseph, Jim Jeffries, Jimmy Soo, Boxing Lesson, Kid Chocolate, Ratings, Quiz, Letters
Wrestling—Don Leo Jonathan, Wrestling Whirl, Fred Blaissie, Billy Varga's Wife, Dangers of Wrestling, Yvon Robert (Part 3), Matches of Month, Letters, Fan Club \$25

NOVEMBER 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Tony DeMarco, Art Aragon, Mario D'Agata, Tony Anthony, King Levinsky's Life, Johnny Busso, Joe Louis vs. John Henry Lewis, Ken Overlin, Ratings, Lockport Jimmy Duffy, Kid McCoy vs. Jim Stewart, Quiz
Wrestling—Bobby Managoff, Around the Circuit, Slave Girl Moolah, Ratings, Matches of Month, Yvon Robert (Part 4), George Hubert, Fan Clubs, Letters \$25

DECEMBER 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Gene Fullmer, Jack Dempsey vs. Billy Miske, Harold Carter, Tex Class Fights, Jinx of College Fighters, Barney Ross vs. Jimmy McLarnin, Alex Miteff, Eddie 'Babe' Risko, Leonard Del Genio, Frank Battaglia, Ratings, Letters
Wrestling—John Paul Hennig, Wrestling Whirl, Rose Roman, Tag Team Situation, Matches of Month, Jim Wright, Bull Montana's Wife, Are Fans Crazy? Letters \$25

JANUARY 1957 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Carmen Basilio, Fighter of Year, Mike Gibbons' Life, Predicting the Champs in 1957, Joe Brown, Greatest Lightweights of All Time, Stanley Ketchel, Boxing Lesson, Tommy Loughran beats Jim Braddock, Bill Brennan, Ratings, Quiz, Letters
Wrestling—Carl Engstrom, Greatest Champions of All Time, Bronko Nagurski, Matches of Month, Johnny Barend, Wrestling Whirl, Tito Carreon, Comparing Old and New, Letters \$30

SEPTEMBER 1957 Boxing—Stanley Weston Editorial, Letters, Fights of Month, Tony Anthony, Benny Leonard Kayoed by Frank Fleming, Alphonse Halimi, Peter Jackson, Willie Pastrano, Gene Tunney, Billy Ryan, Triple Header; Harry Greb beats Mickey Walker, Dave Shade Kayoes Jimmy Slattery, Harry Wills Stops Charley Weinert, Knockout Brown, Tom Sayers, Stanley Ketchel's Life in Pictures, Critics Talk, Ratings
Wrestling—Wrestlers Highest Paid, Killer Kowalski, Results of Month, Hard Boiled Haggerty, Letters, Fan Clubs, Facts Behind Wrestling Boom \$35

JANUARY 1958 Boxing—Stanley Weston Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Jimmy Braddock vs. Tommy Farr, Floyd Patterson, Johnny Kilbane, Mike O'Dowd, Chalky Wright, Carmen Basilio, Jimmy Wilde's Life, World's Ten Best Fighters, Quiz, Fighters Turned Actor, Boxing Lesson, Bare Knuckle Feature, Leach Cross Kayoes Young Otto, Letters, Remember When, Ratings
Wrestling—Ricki Starr, The Bruiser, Canadian Trail, Fan Clubs, Letters, Matches of Month \$25

FEBRUARY 1958 Boxing—TV Jottings, Letters, Fights of Month, Louis vs. Marciano, Robinson vs. LaMotta, Walcott vs. Charles, Pep vs. Saddler, Basilio vs. DeMarco, Light Heavyweight History, Punch that Shocked World (Jack Sharkey Fouls Max Schmeling), Preview of 1958, Born Killer (Fiction), Britain's Boxing Booths, Ray Robinson's Career in Pictures, Picking Winners, Quiz, Gene Tunney-Georges Carpenter Feud, Al McCoy, Critics Talk
Wrestling—Mickey Gold, The Garibaldis, Smith Brothers, Gypsy Joe, The Gallaghers, How Women React to Wrestlers, Photo Highlights, Results of Month, Fan Clubs \$25

APRIL 1958 Boxing—Stanley Weston Editorial, Letters, Fights of Month, Ratings, Carmen Basilio—Fighter of the Year, Complete Review of 1957 featuring Records, Results, Weights, Photos (Eight Pages), Bob Fitzsimmons, History of the Middleweights, Kid Chocolate Beats Fidel LaBarba, John L. Sullivan's Life, Barney Ross' Book, Remember When
Wrestling—Wrestlers in Movies, Sexiest Girl Wrestlers, Penny Banner and Barbara Baker, Predictions for 1958, Is The Champion Lou Thesz or Ed Carpenter? Sellout at the Garden, Photos of Month, Results of Month \$25

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WRESTLING REVUE

WRESTLING REVUE (1959-1964) is thought to be the finest series of wrestling magazines ever published. These beautiful editions (all edited and published by Stanley Weston) set a standard by which all of today's wrestling magazines are judged. The magnificent back issues in this ad, many of which contain spectacular full-color inserts, have been unavailable to the public for more than 10 years. Supplies of these collector's treasures are very limited.

FALL 1960	\$35
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BOXING ILLUSTRATED-WRESTLING NEWS



In November 1958 Stanley Weston launched BOXING ILLUSTRATED-WRESTLING NEWS which established an entirely new concept in the field of boxing and wrestling magazines. They consisted of about 65 percent boxing and 35 percent wrestling in content of the finest writing and photographs ever published. Most of the very rare issues listed below have not been offered for sale in almost 20 years, and they are among the most highly prized Collector's Issues of all time.

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TV BOXING



To meet the public's growing hunger for up-to-the-minute information generated by regular boxing matches shown on the new television medium, Stanley Weston created a new magazine in 1953 to meet the demands. TV BOXING was unique in every way, and while its life's span was less than two years, it established itself as a milestone in the field of boxing magazines. The extremely rare issues listed below have not been offered for sale since 1954.

1953 BOXING ANNUAL



This cherished collector's issue consisted of 100 pages of seemingly endless photographs, statistics and complete records of the leading fighters of the day: Marciano, Robinson, Gavilan, DeMarco, Carter, Saddler, Moore. The list goes on and on. And well over 100 great pictures, some in a glowing red tint. We guarantee that this fabulous 1953 Boxing Annual will turn back the clock and make you feel like you are living in those times: thrilling to the unforgettable performances of some of the greatest fighters who ever lived. This was the first Boxing Annual ever published, and to this day it still retains its title: The Best of All Time—The Champion of Champions! \$50

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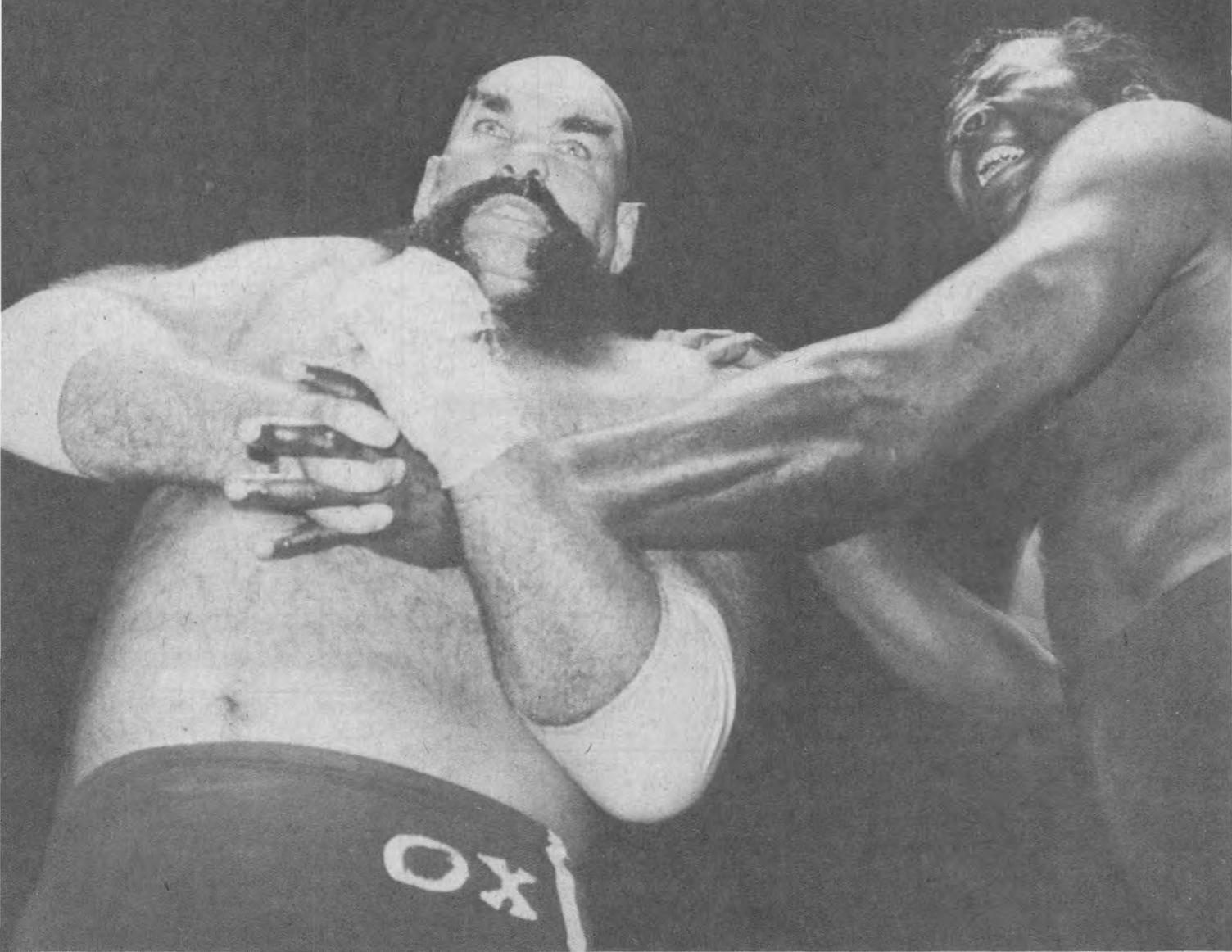
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BOBO BRAZIL -



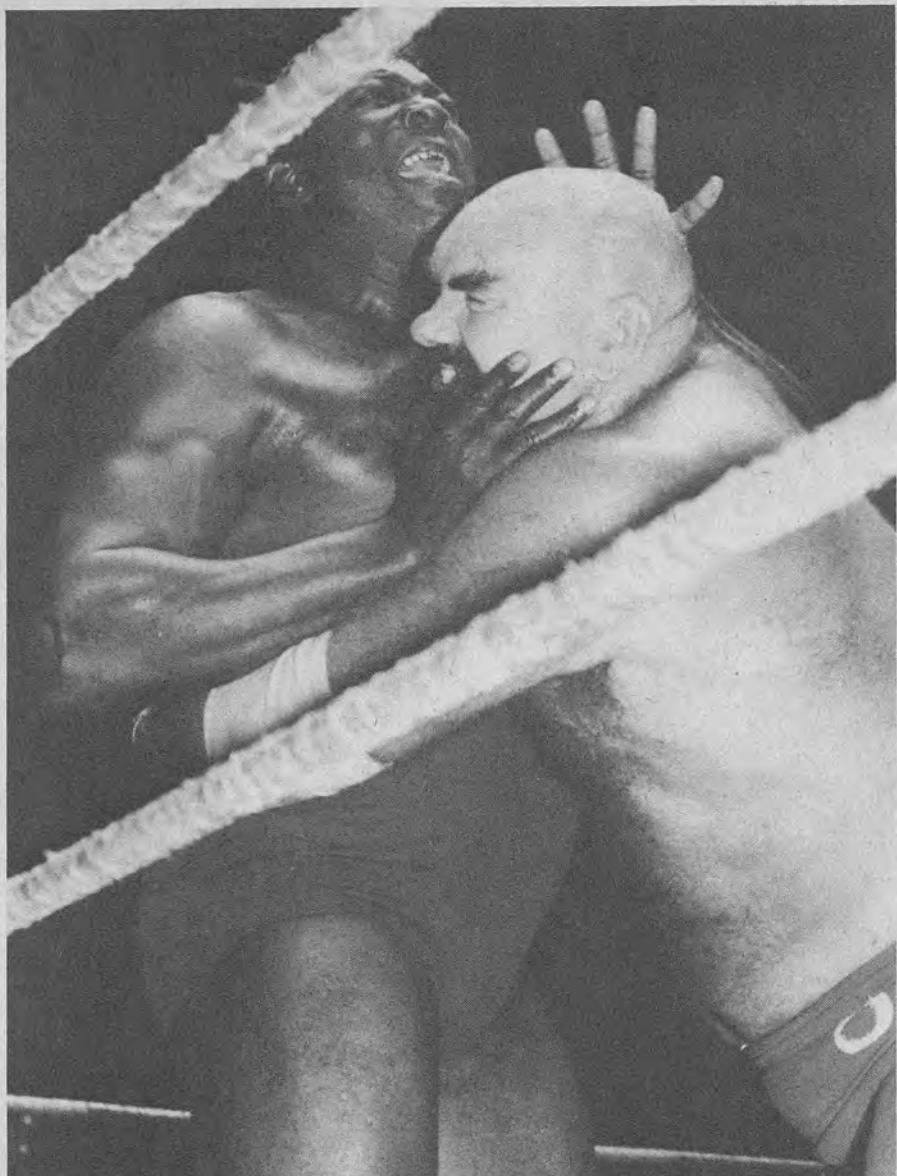
TOMMY RICH HAD already completed his work for the night. The young star had wrestled and won, but he did not linger in the locker-room to savor his victory. Bobo Brazil was scheduled to wrestle next and Rich was at ringside with a notepad and a pen.

"There is so much you can learn from carefully studying the moves of Bobo Brazil," Rich said. "The man has been around. He's confronted every style and has a defense for each one. Just watch."

Brazil's opponent for the

AGELESS





Ox Baker's hand grip is secure (above left), but Bobo Brazil has an escape for his bearhug (above). Bobo and Superstar Billy Graham are a good match in a test of strength (below left).

WONDER

night was Ox Baker, a man Rich has had problems with. "Just look at the way he handles the Ox," Rich said as he scribbled notes without taking his eyes off the ring.

When the match started to turn in Ox Baker's favor, Rich forgot his purpose for being at ringside. His notepad dropped to the floor and he jumped to his feet. He was no longer the

studious wrestler but rather the enraged wrestling fan. He saw the metal object that Baker cleverly hid from the referee but there was little more he could do about it than jump up and down and scream.

"I hate to see Bobo take that kind of crap," he moaned. "This man has been so good for wrestling for so many years and

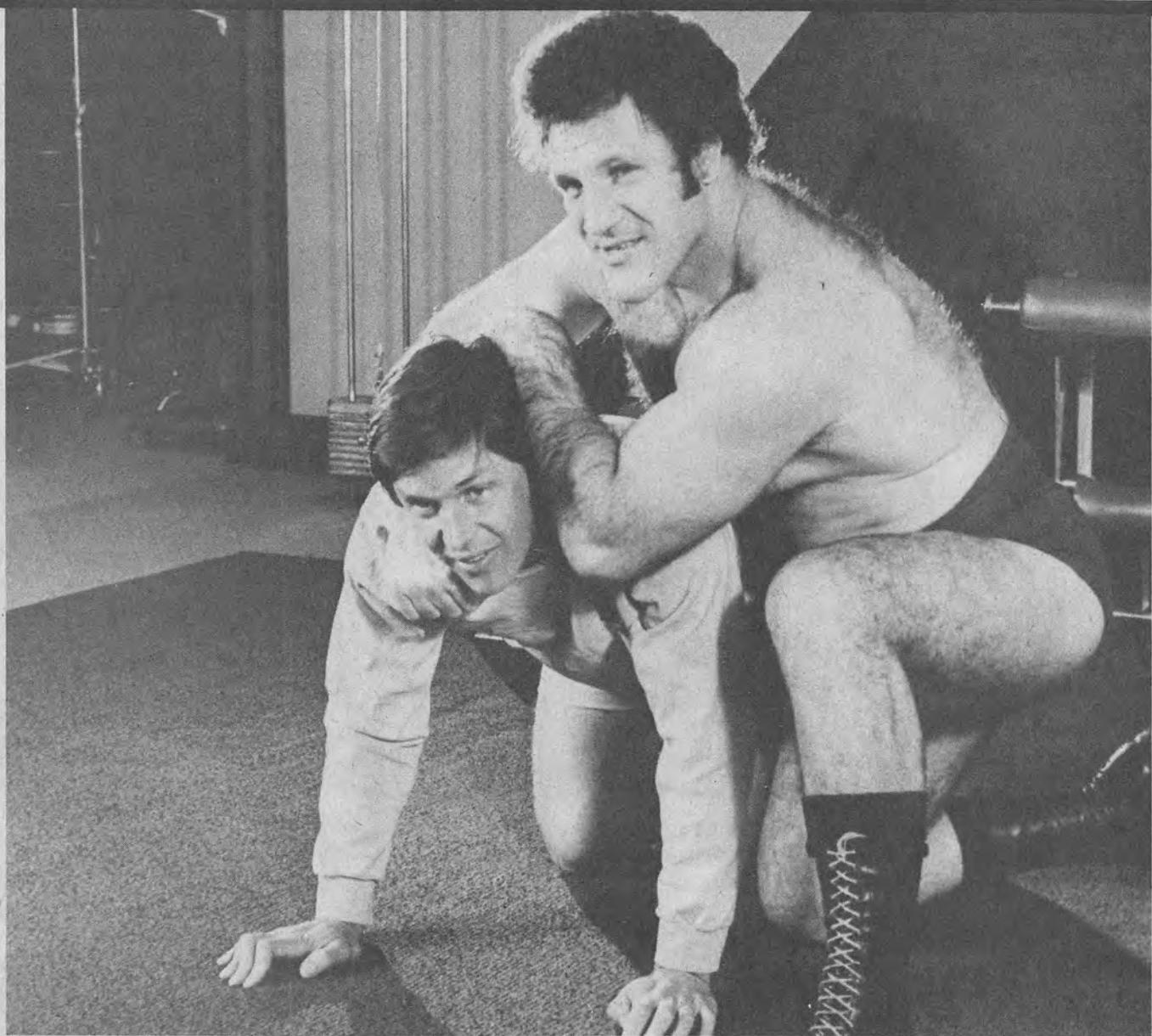
(Continued on page 50)

Wrestling heroes have come and gone, but Bobo Brazil continues to grapple superbly year after year. He stands over the sport like a Colossus, a beacon of excellence to whom all can turn with admiration and respect



Bobo has to muster all his ring savvy against the likes of The Sheik.

*** BRUNO SAMMARTINO... *** GREATEST SPORTS LEGEND!



Joining the great legends that distinguish the sporting world, Bruno Sammartino is the subject of a television show hosted by Tom Seaver. The "Living Legend" is featured in a glowing tribute

GREATEST SPORTS LEGENDS is a television show devoted to honoring all-time great sports personalities. However, the show's ledger of talented men and women was always sadly

deficient, missing that one man whose status in American society is simply incomparable.

Bruno Sammartino, the Living Legend. Now the show is complete:

"You know, it was very exciting to do the show," Bruno said. "To be chosen as the subject of this program was a great honor. I think it went very well."

(Continued on page 56)

An Open Letter To Victor Rivera:

LOOK WHAT FRED BLASSIE'S DONE TO YOU!



PHOTOS BY BILL APTE

Victor Rivera was once a promising scientific wrestler on the verge of mat brilliance. But the evil Fred Blassie slithered into Rivera's path and now the Puerto Rican star wrestles simply to cripple and maim. Please, Victor, read this letter and reconsider your manager's leadership and guidance.

VICTOR, VICTOR, VICTOR. You have so much skill, so much ambition, so much to give to the sport you love. But you're blowing it, ruining a potentially brilliant career.

No, we're not handing you the old rap about turning rulebreaker. Everyone was disappointed when you threw your career into Fred Blassie's cesspool, but that was your decision.

Consider the effect Blassie has had on your relations with other wrestlers. A man you called brother, a man who was an inspiration to you, Bruno Sammartino, was heartbroken by your conversion to rulebreaking.

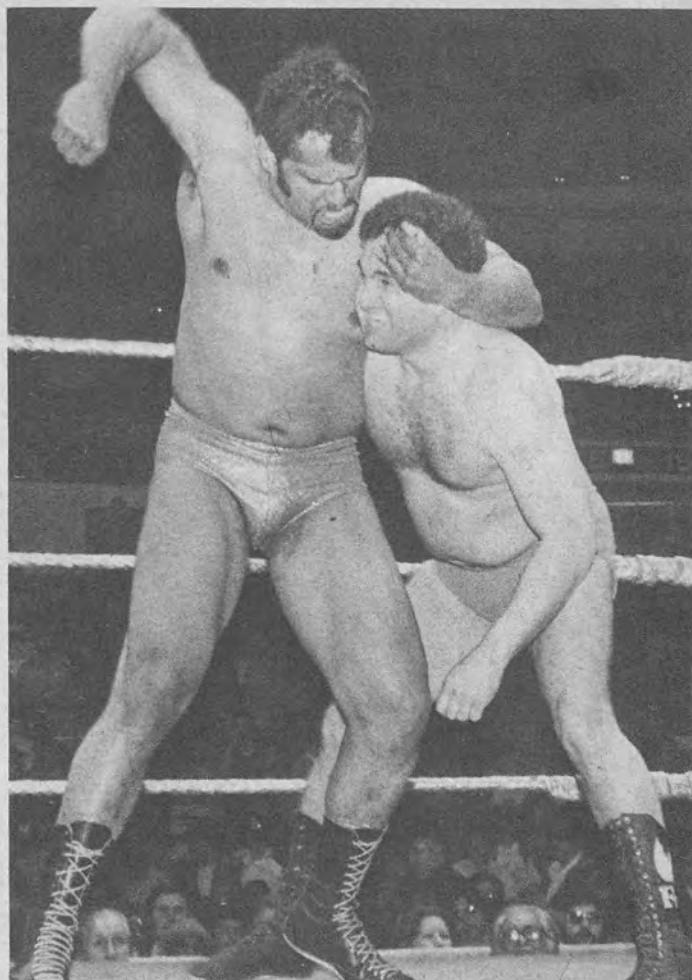
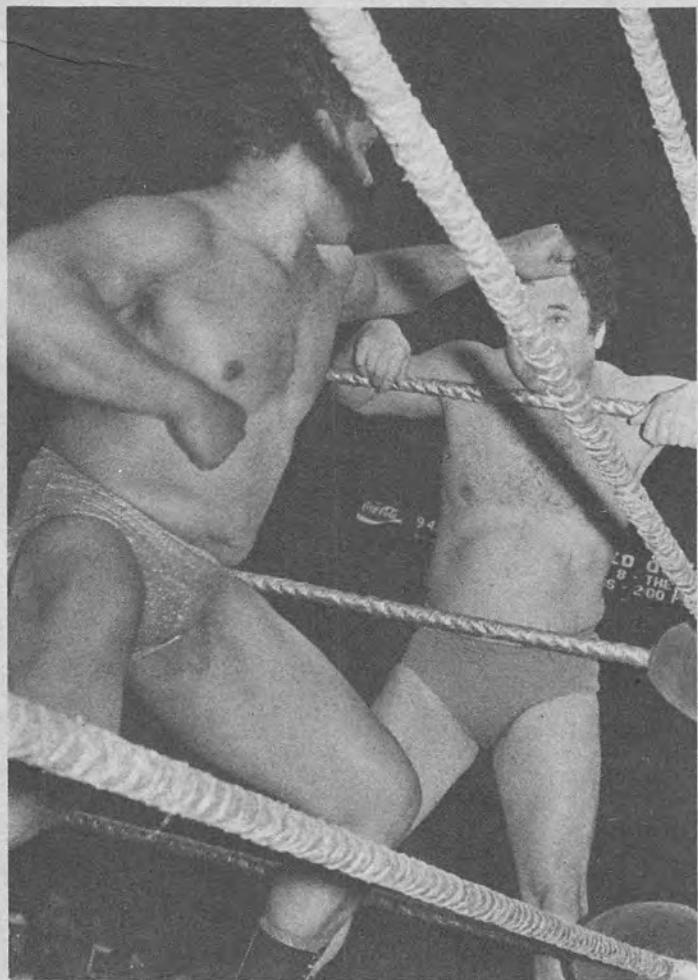
You broke his heart, Victor. But that's not pertinent. Wrestle

anyway you want. Remember, it's your decision.

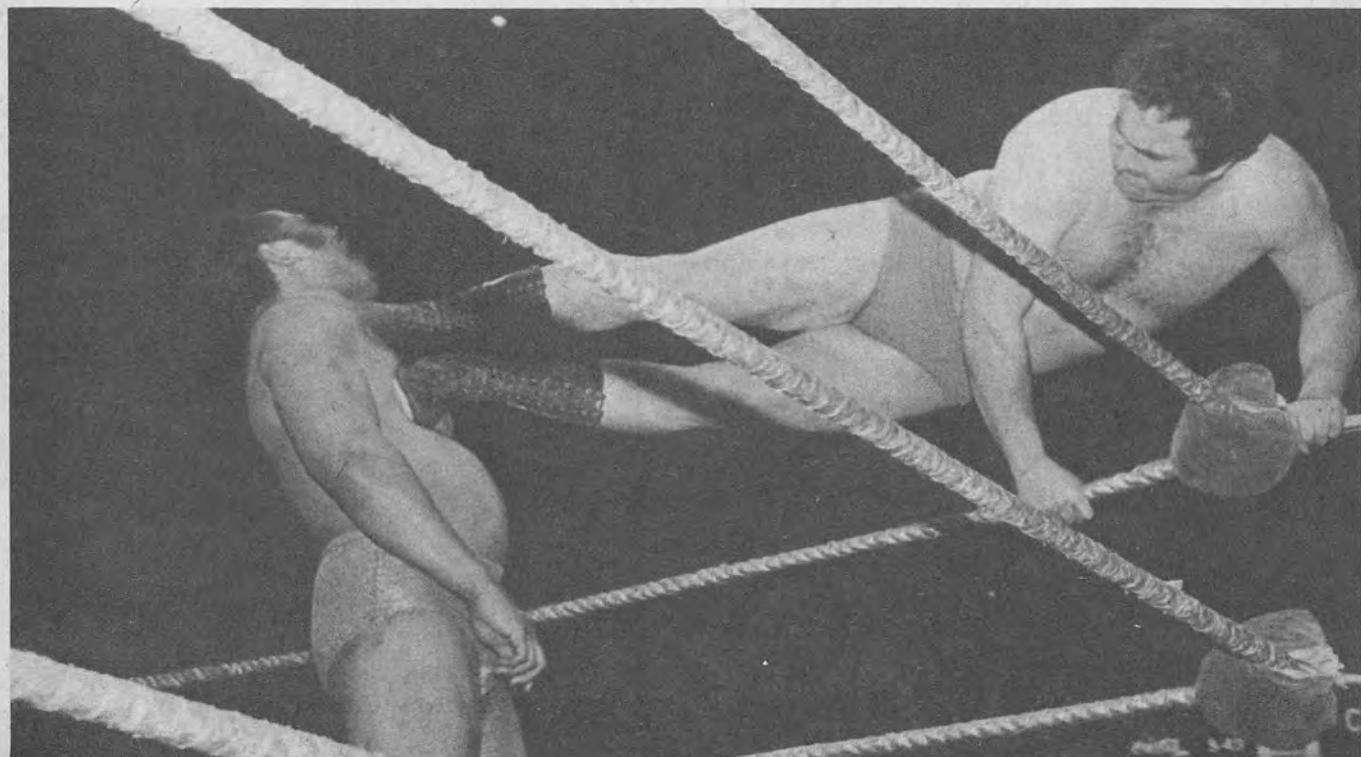
But you'll never be champion. That's right, the coveted belt will forever elude you. Why? Because of Fred Blassie.

Look what he's done to you. He turned you against your fans. Do you like holding your hands to your ears to shut out the boos? You can't douse the hate, Victor. You turned the faucet on full-blast and now you must stand in the steam of public contempt.

Yes, you admitted the boos bothered you. What did Blassie say to comfort you? Surely he said the fans mean nothing, didn't he? That's an old Blassie line. Perhaps he neglected to say the last line. Oh, he'll save that one for later. It'll be a



Victor Rivera was once a promising, talented scientific grappler. But then rulebreaker manager Fred Blassie stepped in. Rivera demonstrated his current style against Fred Curry (above). Curry, a scientific specialist, wrestled in the style that Rivera displayed a few years ago (below). Does Rivera regret his association with Blassie? Unfortunately, we doubt it.





Several years ago, Rivera grappled against Blassie. A sensational scientific wrestler, Victor was brilliant against the sadistic, merciless rulebreaker.



Rivera is prone and Fred Curry is in command. In Curry, Victor saw a wrestler with many of the same aerial skills he possessed before turning rulebreaker. Rivera's change in his approach to wrestling can directly be attributed to the evil influence of manager Fred Blassie.

timely moment, Victor. You'll have just lost on a disqualification. The fans will have booed you unmercifully. You'll have been reduced to prelim status.

You'll be nothing, Victor. And Fred will tell you that now, you mean nothing.

But you have a way to go yet, Victor. Right now, Blassie is destroying your style. For example, review your recent bout against Fred Curry.

Maybe Curry refreshes your memory. In that match, Curry used flying dropkicks and all the other aerial maneuvers you *used* to use.

Used to use. No more. Blassie won't let you. How much did it

hurt, Victor, to see someone with a fraction of your skill mock your talents by using your maneuvers? Did it stab a little? Did a little blood drip across your gut?

When Curry delivered a solid dropkick, how did you feel? Was the urge there to retaliate scientifically, to defy your manager? Surely, your blazing, pained expression signified more than shock and physical suffering.

Surely, it ventilated the puzzled anguish of your soul.

See what Blassie has done? He has turned your friends against you, then eased your pain by calling *them* traitors. He dismissed the scornful fans by calling them irrelevant. He has shackled your style by describing it as old-fashioned.

He is ruining you, Victor Rivera. Both your mental and physical powers are dwindling. It is only a matter of time before your wrestling skills are so rusty that

you'll never recapture your promise.

Never is a long time, Victor Rivera. That is what Fred Blassie promises you.

We're not saying you should return to the style of scientific wrestling. Everyone would like that, but this letter is apart from that.

Whether good or bad, you must be yourself. That's what this is all about. You have the compelling, unique personality only a few are blessed with. You have enormous natural skills, a physical gift. And you have a fiery soul to propel you toward the belt.

But you'll never go anywhere as Fred Blassie's clone. Only as Victor Rivera can you go to the top.

Remember, Victor, when you all alone in the quiet of your room, only your conscience can be your guide.

Your conscience and your dreams. □



Before the match begins, Mulligan tries to tell Andre to take it easy on him. This would be the most important bout of Mulligan's career.

BLACKJACK MULLIGAN: “HOW ANDRE THE GIANT CHANGED MY LIFE”

WHEN BLACKJACK MULLIGAN changed from hated rulebreaker to scientific wrestler a few months ago, the wrestling community was curious as to the reasons why.

“I saw what sort of hellish dudes Ric Flair and Greg Valentine were and realized that people considered me as one of them,” Mulligan had said.

“I couldn’t stand being a rulebreaker. I feel like a free man now that I’ve joined the good guys of wrestling.”

That was the story *then*. It was only half the truth. The other portion has remained hidden behind Mulligan’s intrinsic decency and the benevolent kindness of Andre the Giant.

Andre? What does Andre have to do with this?

“Andre the Giant changed my life,” Mulligan said. “I couldn’t go into the details earlier because Andre asked me not to.

“Not that the other reasons weren’t true. They damn well were. I hate Flair, Valentine and

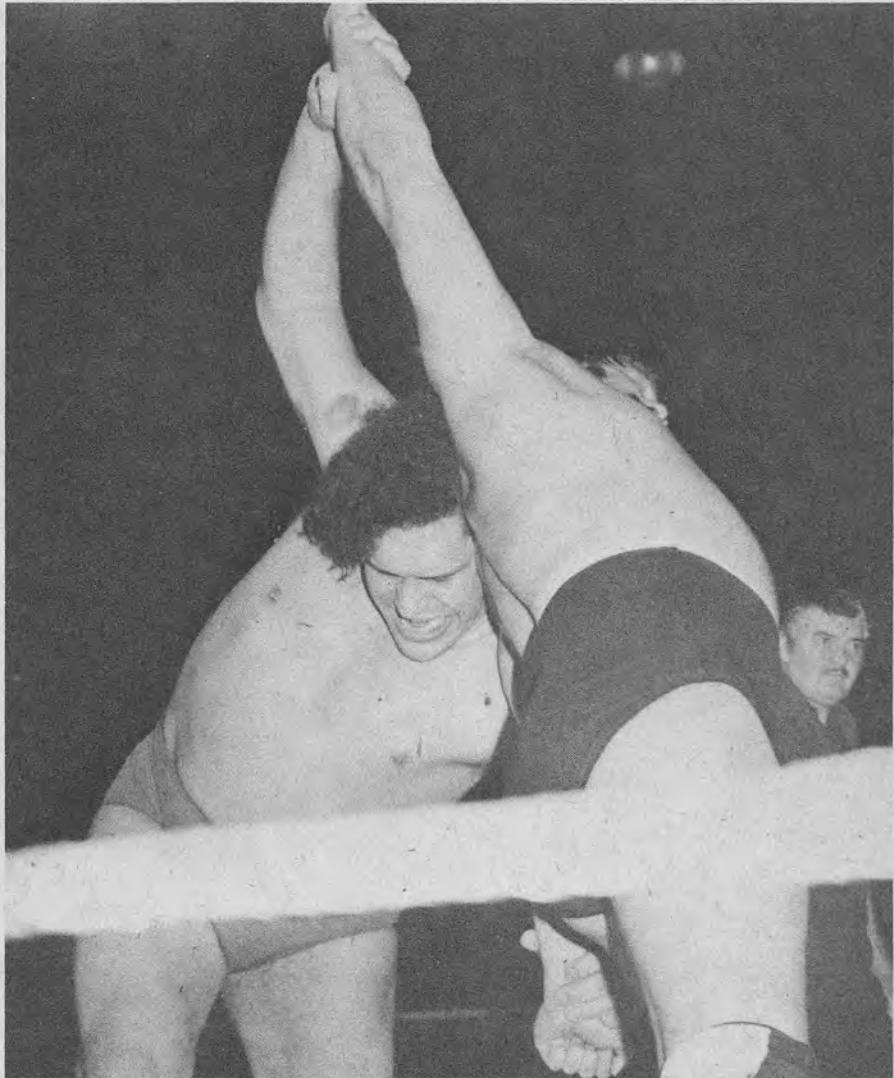


all those asses and I love to wrestle them and whip their butts. All that is as valid as it ever was.

"But the principal reason behind my conversion is Andre: No doubt about it. Andre the Giant changed my life."

The first encounter took place one year ago. Mulligan was still writhing in the epileptic throes of rulebreaker evil. He and Andre were scheduled for a match. As they walked toward the center of the ring, Mulligan uttered some

These have been strange times for Blackjack Mulligan. Once a man despised throughout the world, he now curries favor with the fans and wrestles men who were once his friends. Now, even more shocking, is his strange and astounding relationship with Andre the Giant!



Andre is about to win a test of strength. It was on this night that Mulligan learned scientific wrestlers can be tough, yet fair. It was a lesson which changed his life and made him a fan favorite.

vile comment linking Andre's great-grandmother to Napoleon's horse.

The Giant smiled.

"I expected some reaction, at least a fist in my mouth. Hell, at that point in my life, I welcomed a reaction like that. But when he just grinned, hell, that flipped me out."

As expected, they wrestled stylishly, yet brutally. Andre won by disqualification. He did not bask or gloat in his victory. Instead, he walked across the ring and extended his hand to Mulligan.

Blackjack snarled and turned his back. A gentle voice then rang out and penetrated the

Mulligan backs Andre into the ropes. When the referee called for a break, Blackjack surprised everyone in the arena by obeying.

PHOTOS BY D.J. SOLIS

morose layers of Mulligan's mind.

"Do not brood on defeat. Had you done it differently, you might have won," Andre said quietly. Mulligan whirled, offended. His anger disappeared in front of the Giant's kindly grin.

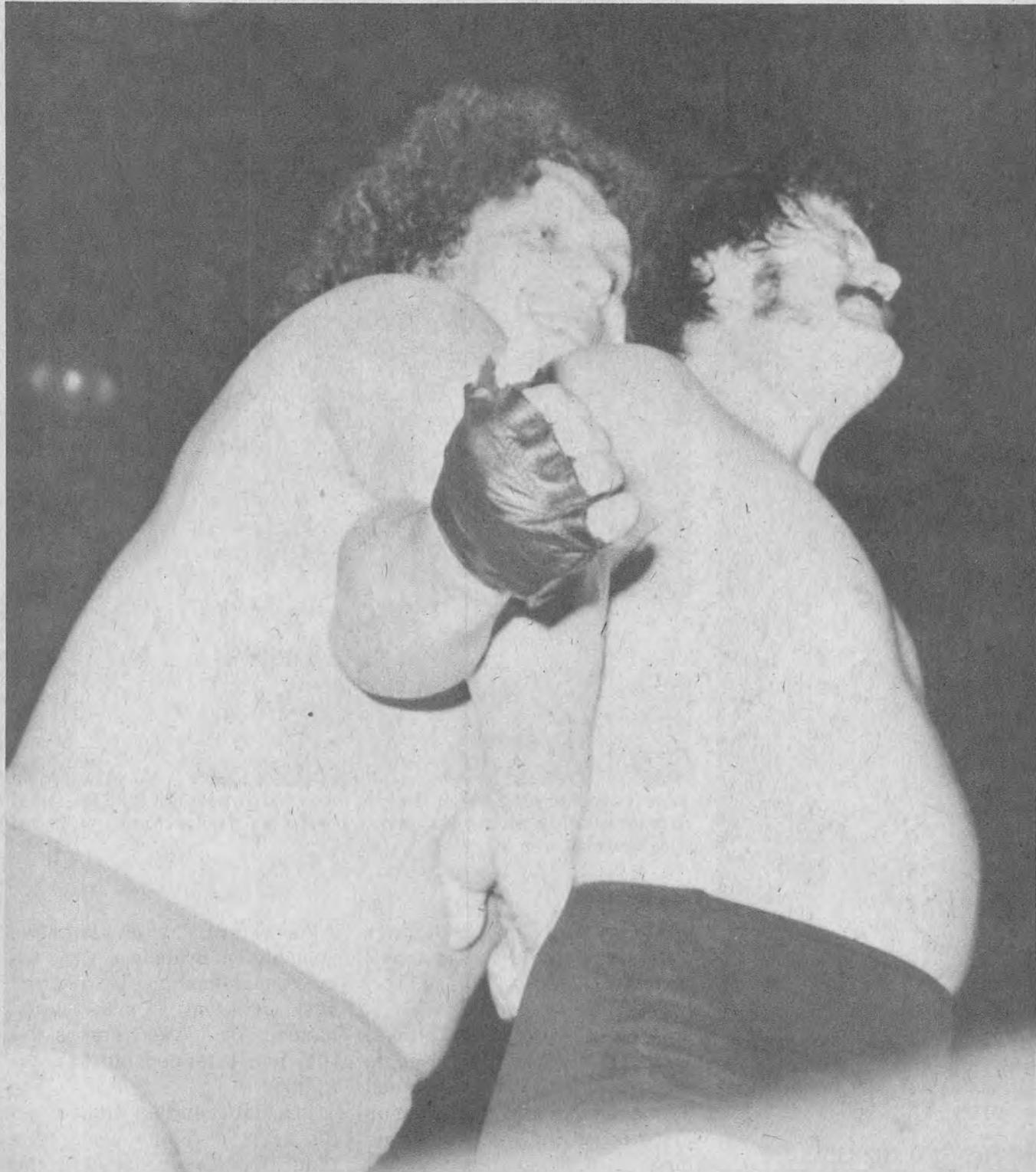
All Mulligan could do was sputter and stumble out of the ring.

"At that point, I wondered how a guy could be that nice and that successful. I started questioning the whole rigid philosophy of life I'd been using all these years.

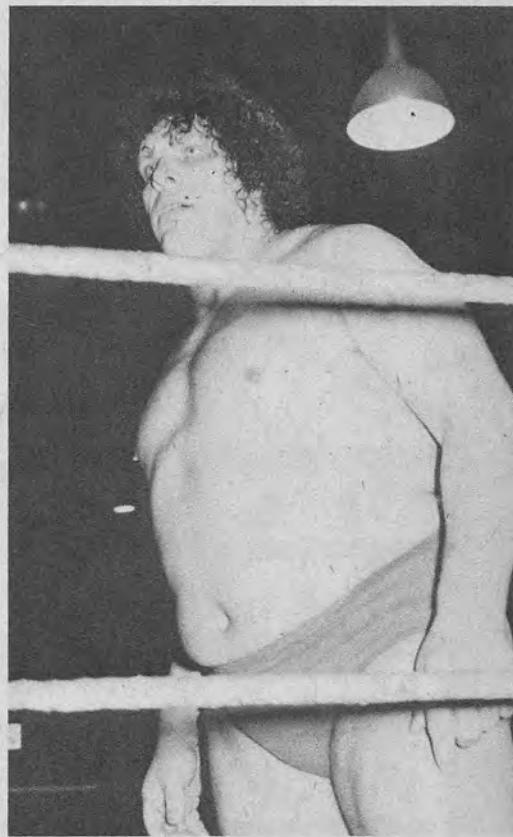
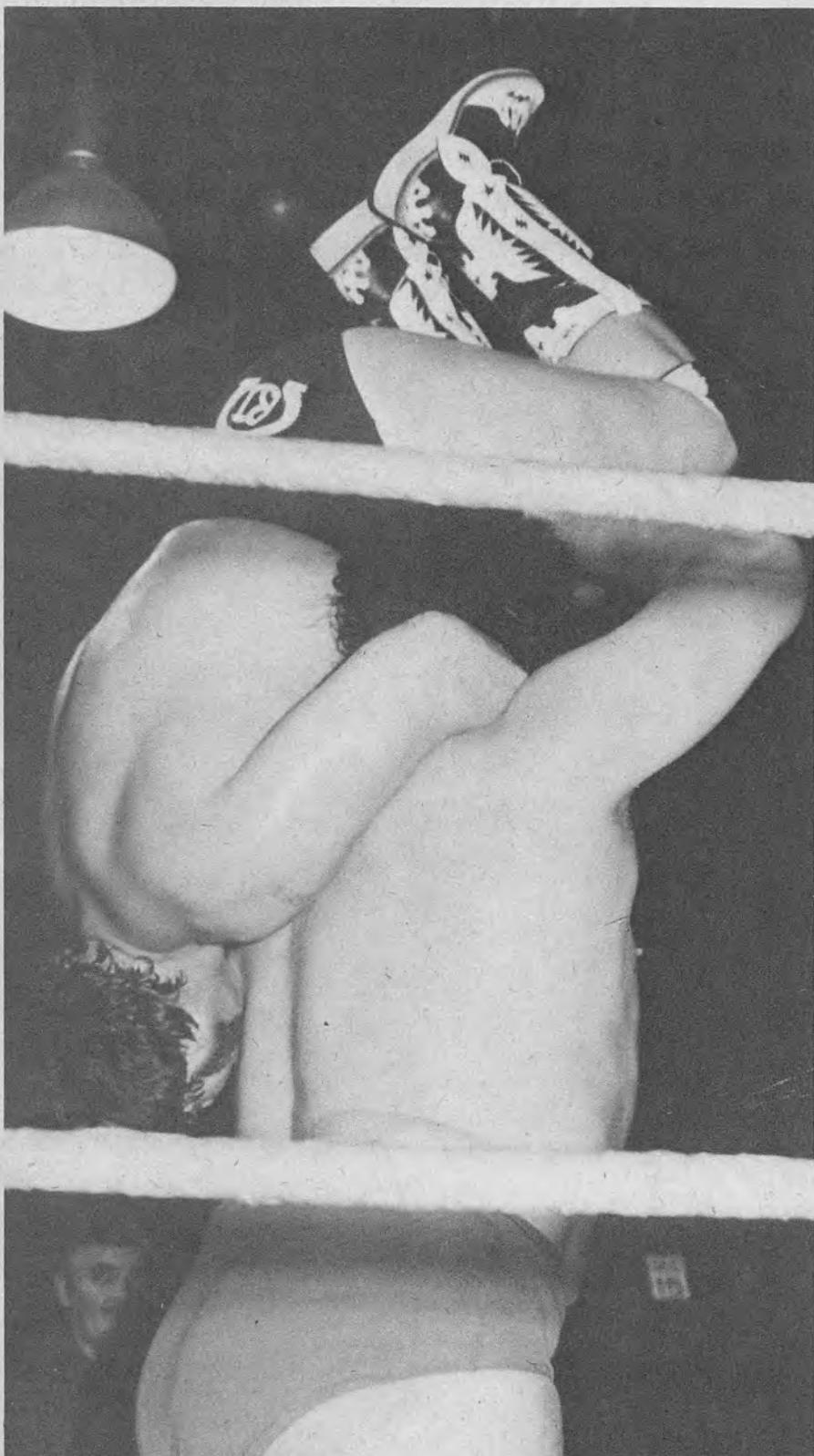
"Later that night, I went out to have a bite to eat with Flair and Valentine. I mentioned how nice Andre was to me and they started laughing cruelly and saying bad things about Andre.

"Maybe the day before, I woulda joined in, but I didn't. They gave me the eye, you know, checking me out and wondering what I was doing."

Mulligan was still firmly rooted in rulebreaking. A few months later he met a fine scientific wrestler and systematically destroyed the man, utilizing every vicious trick



Below: Mulligan, who stands 6-7, looks like a midget compared to Andre as he sails into the air from a backdrop. Right: After the match, Andre tells Blackjack not to feel bad about being disqualified.



know, I mean, his career wasn't over and he wasn't mutilated.

"A while earlier, I woulda found satisfaction from that information. But not now. I felt bad and couldn't really understand why.

"Then I heard Andre's voice and remembered that smile."

It was exactly 17 days later that Mulligan telephoned Andre. They talked for nearly three hours. They discussed wrestling and what they wanted to do with their lives.

"I guess I'd always frowned on good guys. I always thought of them as a bunch of lames who were too weak to really rough it up. But you can't say that about Andre. He won't bully people or use his size unfairly."

"That was the night I knew I had to do more with my life. I knew I had to be nice and see if I could be successful.

"You can. Andre never wanted this to come out 'cause he'd feel embarrassed. But I wanted it known. I wanted the whole world to know how Andre the Giant changed my life. □

he'd ever learned.

"I was sitting in the dressing room, feelin' kinda good about myself, you know. I'd whipped

this dude and whipped him bad. Then someone came in and told me that the guy had suffered a rib injury. Nothing serious, you

Putski vs. Valentine:

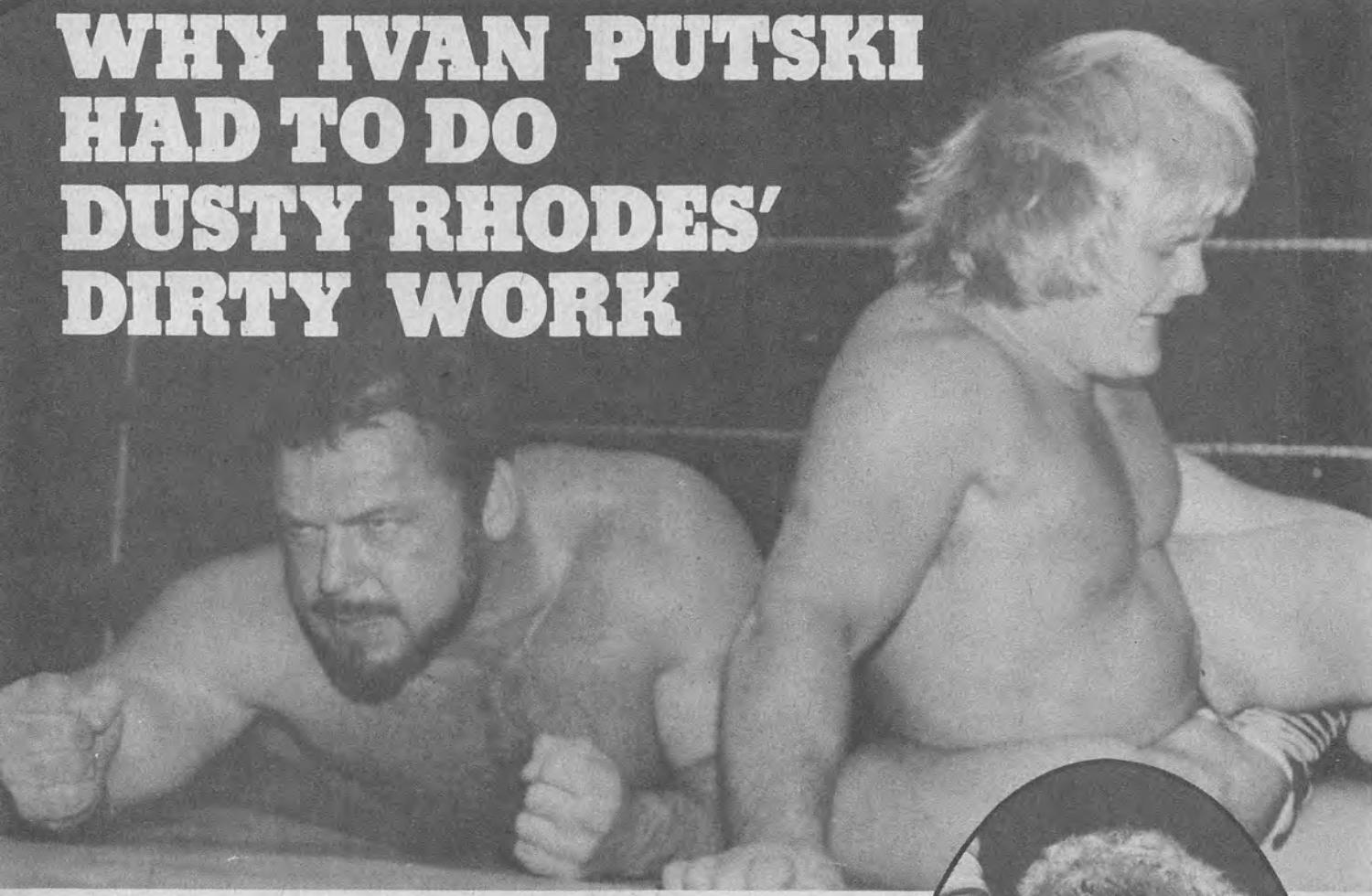
Dusty Rhodes is a proud man. But unable to compete

in a long-awaited match against

Greg Valentine, "The American Dream"

called on another proud man, Ivan Putski. The Polish strongman gladly substituted, and received the opportunity to punish the much-hated Valentine

WHY IVAN PUTSKI HAD TO DO DUSTY RHODES' DIRTY WORK



PAIN CONTORTED Dusty Rhodes' face, transforming it into a mosaic of frustrated agony. With quivering fingers, Rhodes lifted the receiver and dialed his friend.

Ivan Putski was all that stood between Rhodes and utter humiliation.

"Ivan, this is the 'Dream,'" Dusty whispered hoarsely, uttering the intimate nickname used only

with his closest friends. "My man, I am hurting. I pulled a muscle, Ivan, and I can't make the match against Valentine."

Putski's response was unhesitating.

"You wish me to fill in for you?" Ivan asked flatly.

"Would you, buddy?"

"For my friend, anything."

So it came to be that Ivan Putski substituted for Dusty Rhodes. At



first, Greg Valentine thought that he would have *no* opponent that night.

"Chicken," snickered Valentine as he surveyed the empty ring.

As his words still ricocheted around the squared circle, a thundering roar erupted from the crowd, drowning out Valentine's snarl and blanching his face.

Ivan Putski stode mightily down aisle. Flowers were tossed in his path, adoring arms stretched to touch his frame and sighs and moans of awe greeted the exponent of Polish Power.

This was a challenge Putski gladly took. But unyielding



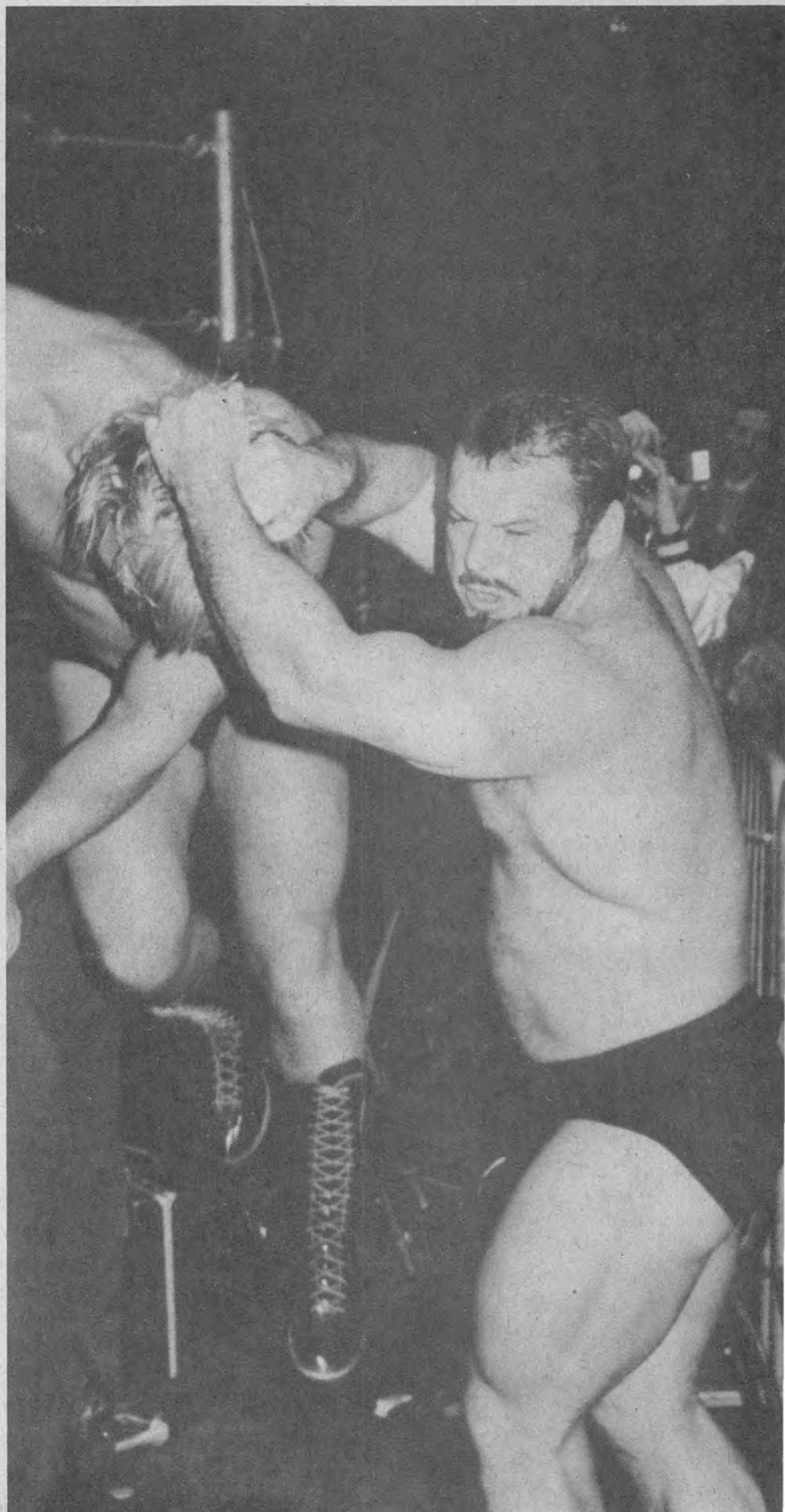
Ivan Putski and Greg Valentine brawl in and out of the ring (above and right). Putski substituted for Dusty Rhodes.

friendship was not his sole motivation.

Revenge. Contempt. Simply, Ivan Putski dislikes Greg Valentine. Ivan Putski dislikes Greg Valentine the man, as well as Greg Valentine the wrestler.

"I don't approve of what he does. He is a sadist. I cannot tolerate sadism or evil," said Putski. "No matter who Dusty has asked me to wrestle, I would not have turned him down."

"But Greg Valentine made it all the sweeter."





Ivan Putski winds up and aims at the unprotected chest of rulebreaker Greg Valentine (above). Valentine recovers to punish Putski (below). Because of Valentine's treacherous tactics, every scientific star wants to whip him.



Matching Putski's contempt is Rhodes' own loathing for Valentine.

"Man, I wanted to wrestle him so badly," Rhodes said, slapping his injured leg muscle.

Two names inspire Rhodes' feelings of hatred. Chief Jay Strongbow and Wahoo McDaniel. And their broken legs.

"Yeah, Wahoo and Jay have healed, but I'll never forgive Valentine for attacking them." Dusty nearly spit the words. "I wanted to wrestle Valentine and twist him into a bloody pretzel. Damn this injury!"

The injury may have slowed Rhodes physically, but it could not dampen the collective venom unleashed by Putski and the "Dream."

"As I walked down the aisle on my way into the ring, I felt Rhodes' presence," Putski said. It was like a huge, white cloud.

"Then I realized I was just overwhelmed by the experience. I was moved," said Putski.

One man was understandably unaffected by the tumultuous emotionality.

"Dopey Putski or Fatso Rhodes," Valentine shrugged with disdain. "What's it matter to me? They all fall down like plastic rats."

Except this night.

Putski was psyched. And psyched is an understatement.

"I have never been so up for a match," he later said.

Sensing the inevitable currents, Valentine quickly resorted to rulebreaking. He was disqualified. Quickly. Despite the victory, Putski had some lament.

"I'd like a fair bout. One fair bout," he said with a smile. □

The foul mouth and mind of Ernie Ladd has created a stunning rumor. He claims Bob Backlund, champion of the WWF, is paying him off to destroy Andre the Giant. But when Ladd and Andre wrestled, a clearer and more reassuring picture developed

ERNIE LADD:

"BACKLUND IS PAYING ME TO DESTROY ANDRE"

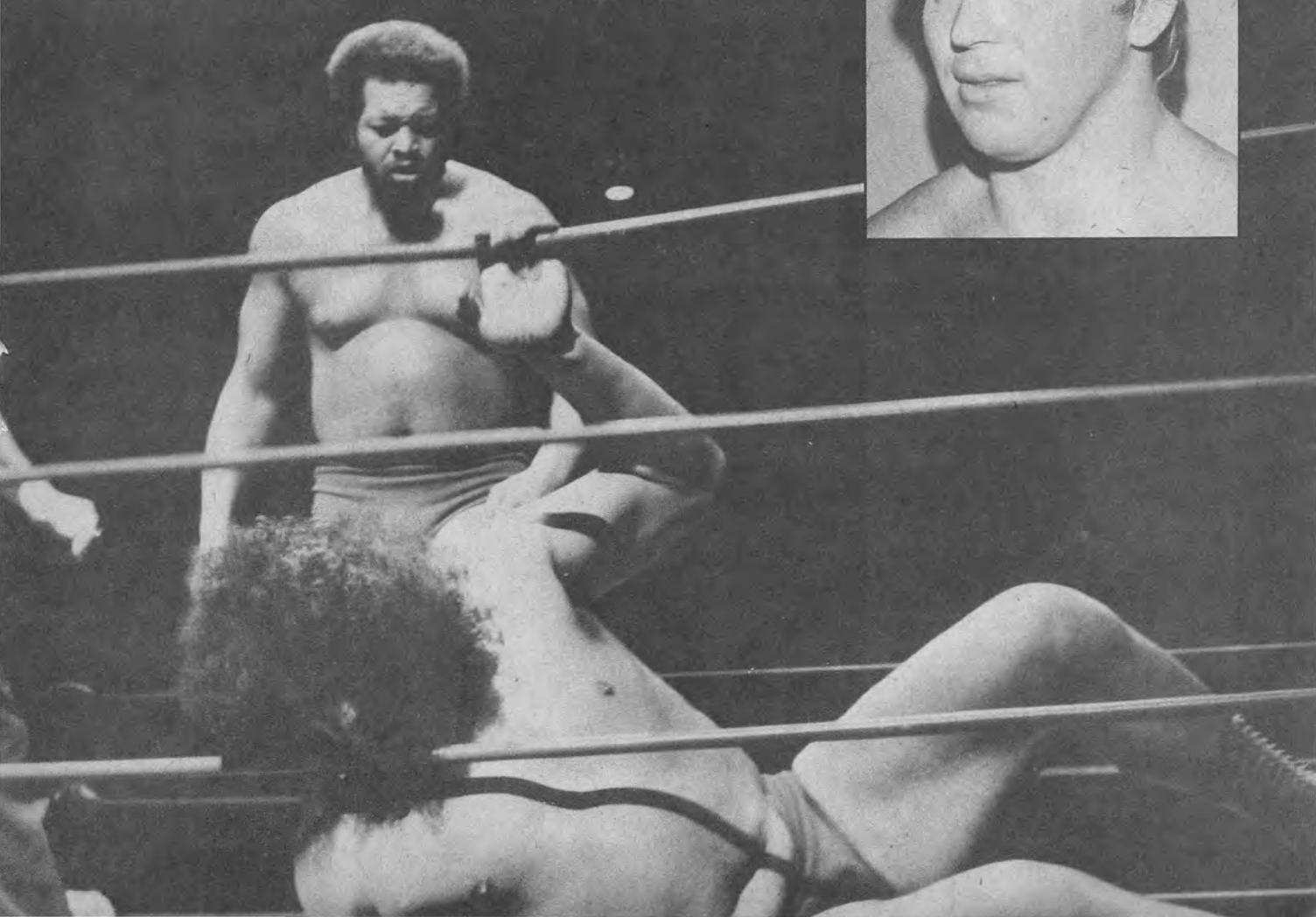
WWF champion Bob Backlund (right) does not appreciate the stories created by the foul mouth of Ernie Ladd. Ladd, punishing a prone Andre the Giant (below), claims Backlund is paying him off to destroy Andre. But Andre did the destroying in his encounter with Ernie. Ladd says that Backlund is scared of losing his title to Andre.

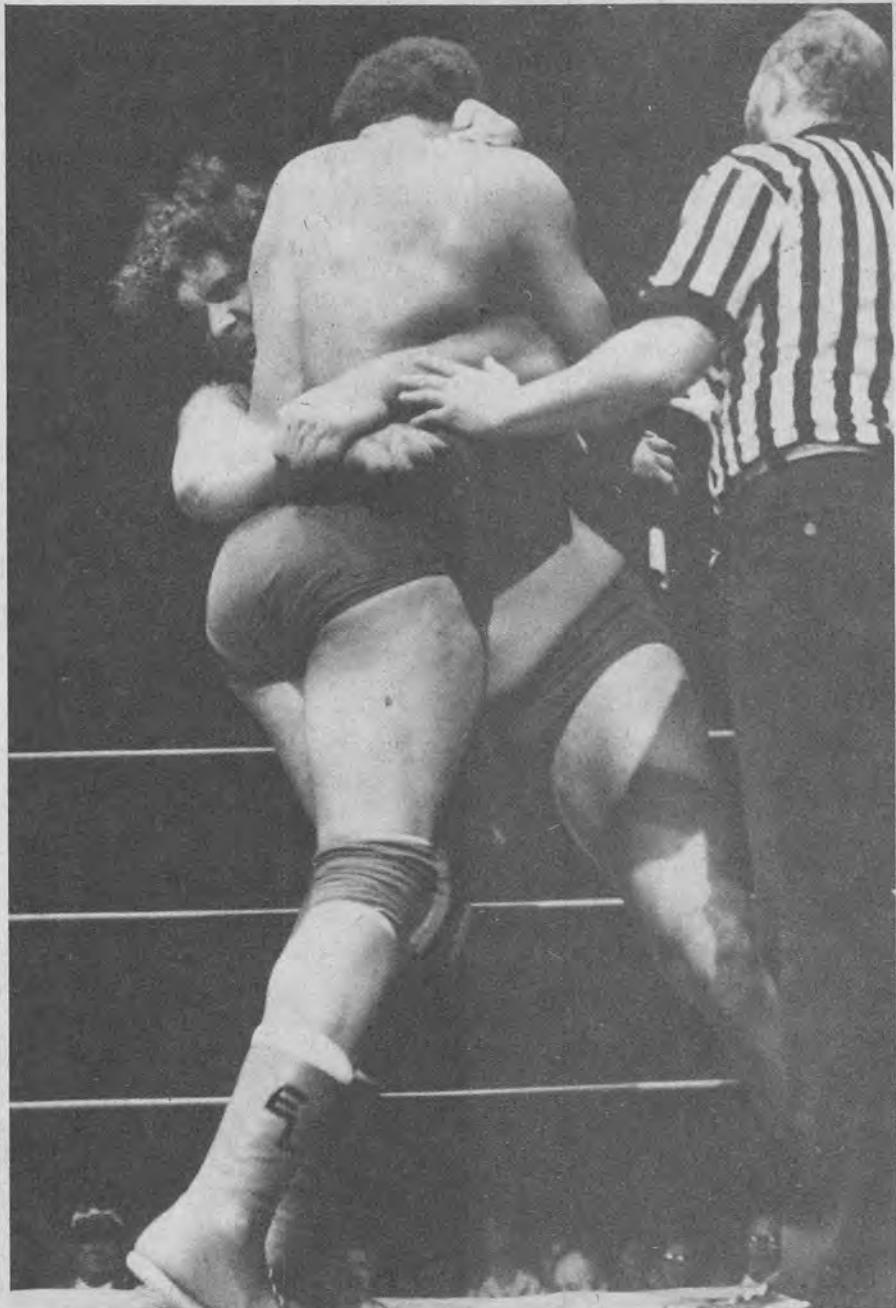
P ALE BLUE LIGHTS trickled across the wooden beams of the restaurant. Thick blue carpets laid beneath chrome-topped tables. Gentle music flowed from invisible speakers in the corners. Waitresses in long gowns fluttered between tables. An arrogant head waiter

turned away unsuitable types at the door.

Within the mist of hushed elegance, a heavy voice knifed through and ruined the peaceful setting.

"Hey, where's my steak?" shouted Ernie Ladd, rising menacingly.





Andre the Giant locks Ernie Ladd in a rib-crushing bearhug (above). Andre is not used to meeting an opponent who is almost as big as he is. Ladd seems confused as he is trapped in an Andre full-nelson (right). Ladd uses his big mouth before and after matches. Andre would rather do his unique type of communicating in the ring.

Hurriedly, Mr. Ladd's two-pound piece of meat, complete with onions, mushrooms and three baked potatoes, appeared before him. He attacked the steak with a long knife and shoved a large hunk of meat in his mouth. Midway through his



ferocious chewing, Ladd paused, gulped in surprise and stared at the figure seated at a corner table.

Bob Backlund looked up and saw Ladd. He smiled, though Ladd maintained his gloomy stare. Fate had brought them to the same restaurant. Backlund, in his typically gracious manner, waved the waitress over. She bent over and Backlund whispered something in her ear. He then pointed at Ladd, who stiffened.

The waitress disappeared behind a gold-trimmed door. She returned to Backlund's table and dropped a check onto an empty plate. She then went over to Ladd.

"The gentleman over there is picking up your check," she told Ladd. A puzzled smile punctured his serious stare. The smile grew into a shrewd grin. He asked the waitress for a receipt, saying it was for tax reasons.

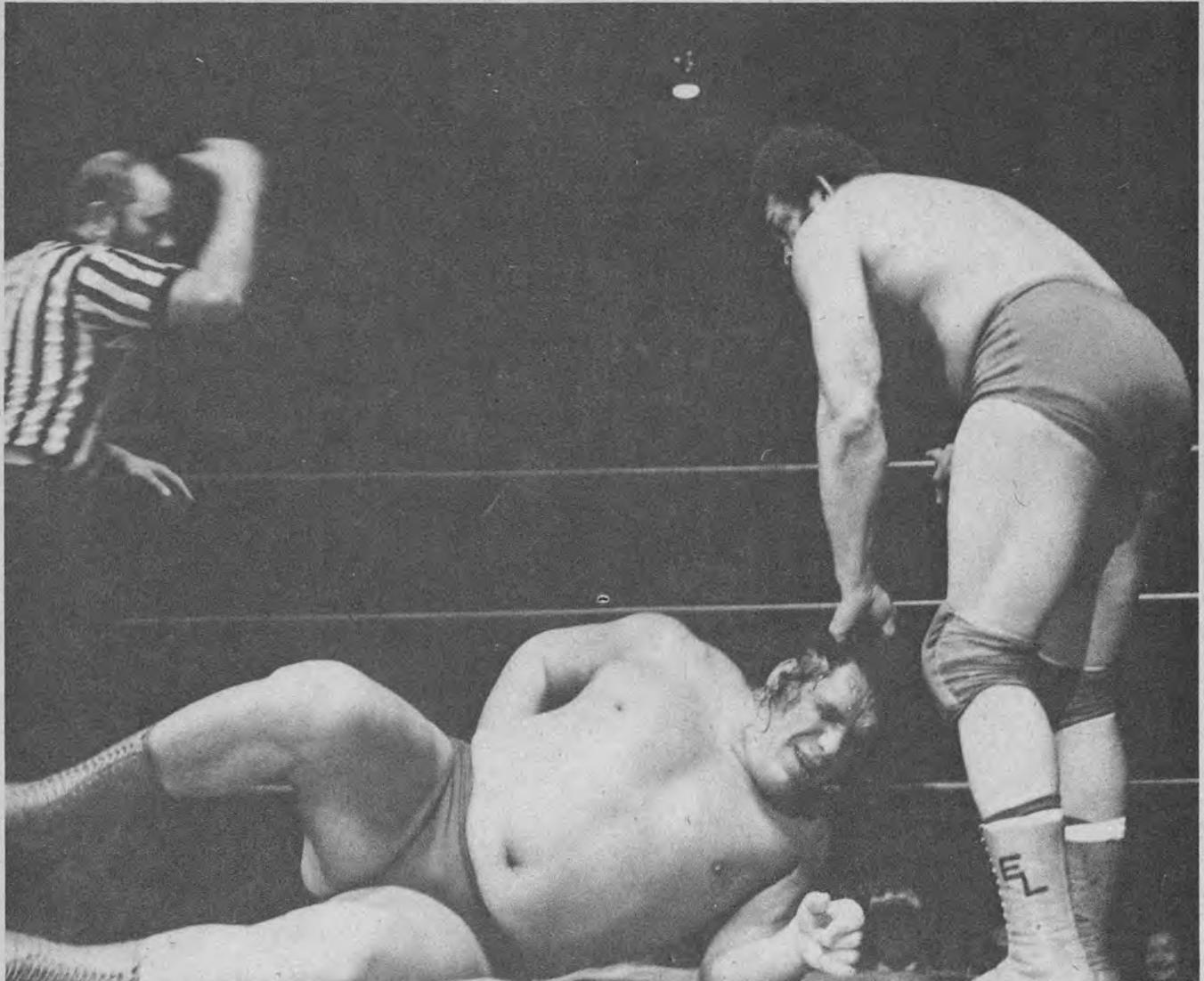
That receipt never attached itself to Ladd's tax package. Rather, it made a poisonous appearance at a wrestling match, prior to Ladd's bout with Andre the Giant.

The receipt was supported by a startling contention, a claim as sickening and ungracious as any Ernie Ladd has ever polluted the air with.

Brandishing the thin slip of paper, Ladd waved his arms and patronizingly gestured for reporters to gather before him.

"I got a seamy story to tell," Ladd began as he shook the receipt. "All you flunkies know what a fine man I am. Since I'm independently wealthy, I don't need more money. I make enough as it is."

"And everyone knows what an honest soul I am," Ladd bellowed, pausing to glare at the giggles from the rear of the room.



Ladd ignores the referee as he yanks Andre by the hair. Ernie's vicious rulebreaking style infuriates the Giant. Andre also questions the validity of Ladd's bandaged thumb.

"But I was made an offer I just couldn't refuse. Howdy Doody Bob Backlund has paid me a lot of dough to destroy Andre the Giant."

Murmurs of shocked disbelief battered the dressing room. A chorus of questions flooded Ladd. He dismissed them with an impatient wave of his giant hand.

"Yes, Bobby Backlund is afraid of Andre. He is aware that Andre could eat him alive and win the WWF title. Then where would Backlund be? Chewing old grain in Duluth, Minnesota, that's where.

"I met Backlund in a restaurant and he offered me a large sum of money if I would beat Andre to a pulp.

"Everyone knows how I feel about Andre. I hate tall, ugly creatures. They give tall, majestic men like me a bad name.

"So I jumped at the chance to whip Andre, show him some of his blood and also get a little extra bread on the side.

"The reason I'm telling you flunkies this is to show the world what kind of creep Backlund is. Howdy Doody is too afraid to fight his own battles. He's as much a rulebreaker as the rest of us distinguished gentlemen. I hope in the future you flunkies appreciate that. Now off I go to beat up Andre.

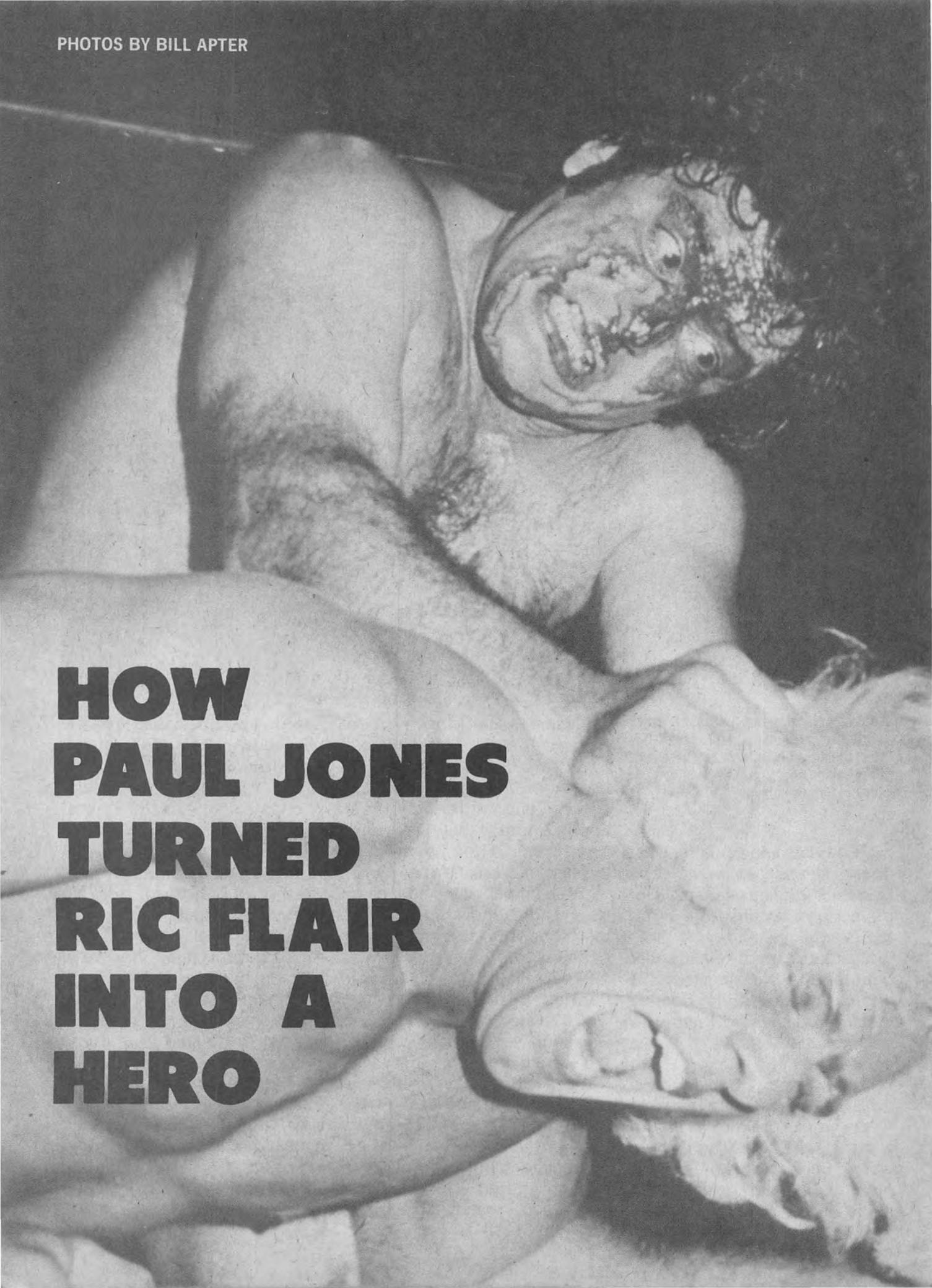
If Ladd hoped this little

speech would cause trouble between Andre and Backlund, he was wrong—painfully wrong. Backlund had telephoned Andre explaining what had really happened in the restaurant. After hearing the truth, Andre became incensed that Ladd would try so underhand a trick.

"Bobby and I are friends," Andre simply stated. A wave of his giant hand showed he would no longer discuss the subject. Andre had said all that was needed to be said in that one short sentence of loyalty.

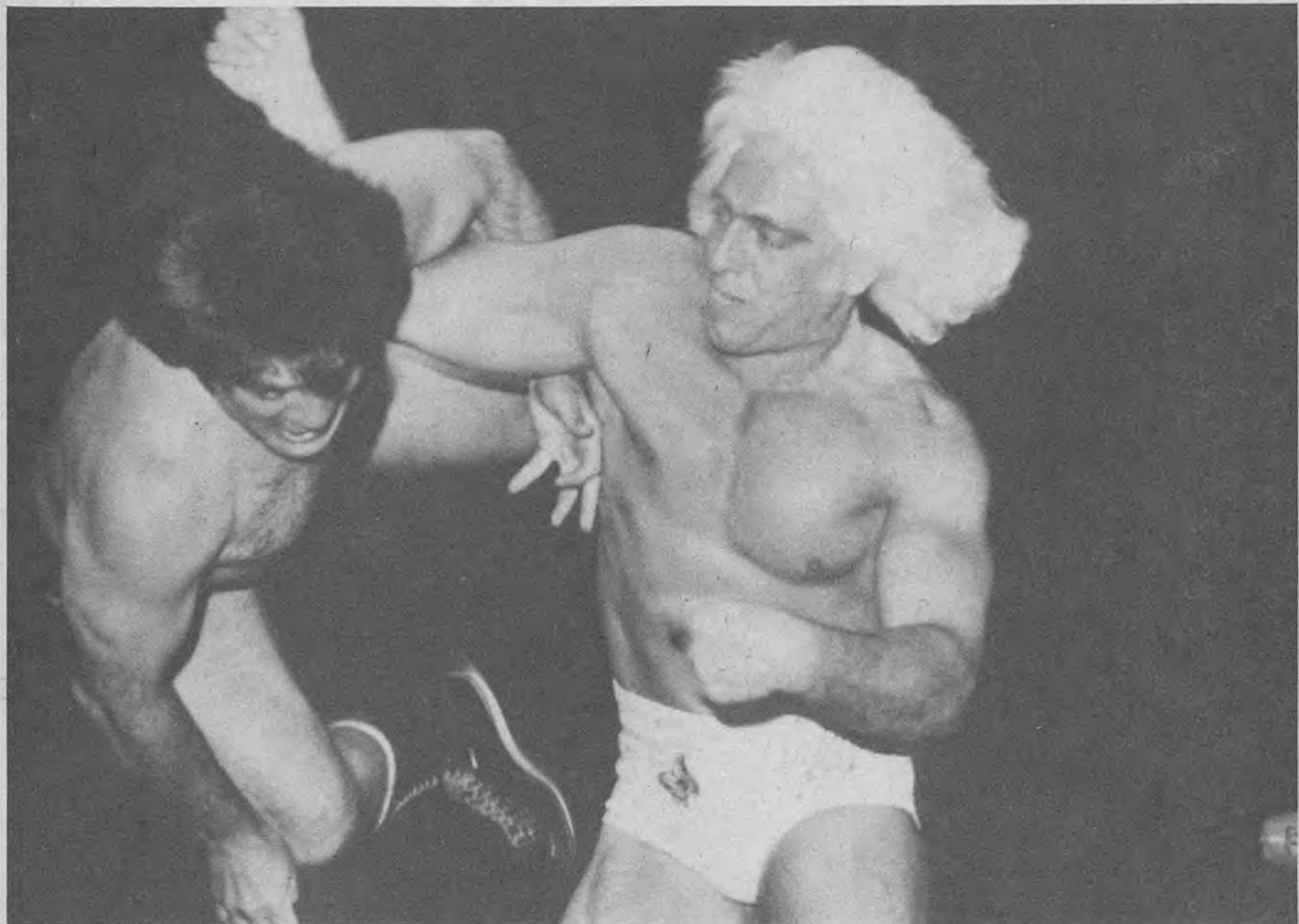
As for the Ladd-Andre match, well, ringside observers claimed Andre never wrestled better, harder, or with more intensity. It will probably be some time before Ernie Ladd makes ridiculous claims again. □

PHOTOS BY BILL APTER



HOW PAUL JONES TURNED RIC FLAIR INTO A HERO

The Rick Steamboat-Ric Flair feud has scarred all of wrestling. But even the incredible hate the fans feel for Flair pales in the shadow of the contempt accorded Paul Jones. The impossible has occurred. Paul Jones has turned Ric Flair into a hero



THE RULEBREAKER CLIMBED into the ring. Jeers and catcalls blanketed his sneering face. He disdained the fans, contemptuous of their reaction and their feelings. The jeers continued. So did his sneers.

Paul Jones is a hated man.

His opponent strutted down the aisle, the long blond hair and arrogant demeanor unaffected by his foe's action. He knew what it was like to be jeered. He had heard it his entire career.

For him, it was as much a part of wrestling as his trunks and boots.

The hated Ric Flair tosses the despised Paul Jones to the mat. The fans rooted for Flair when he battled Jones. Both grapplers feud with Rick Steamboat.

But this night, there were no jeers as he walked down the aisle. Instead, he heard encouraging shouts. He heard fans scream their support.

Incredibly, this night, Ric Flair was a HERO!

"I couldn't believe it," Flair said.

Yes, a series of events, without any pre-planning, without any real coherency, had combined to make Flair a beloved figure to the fans.

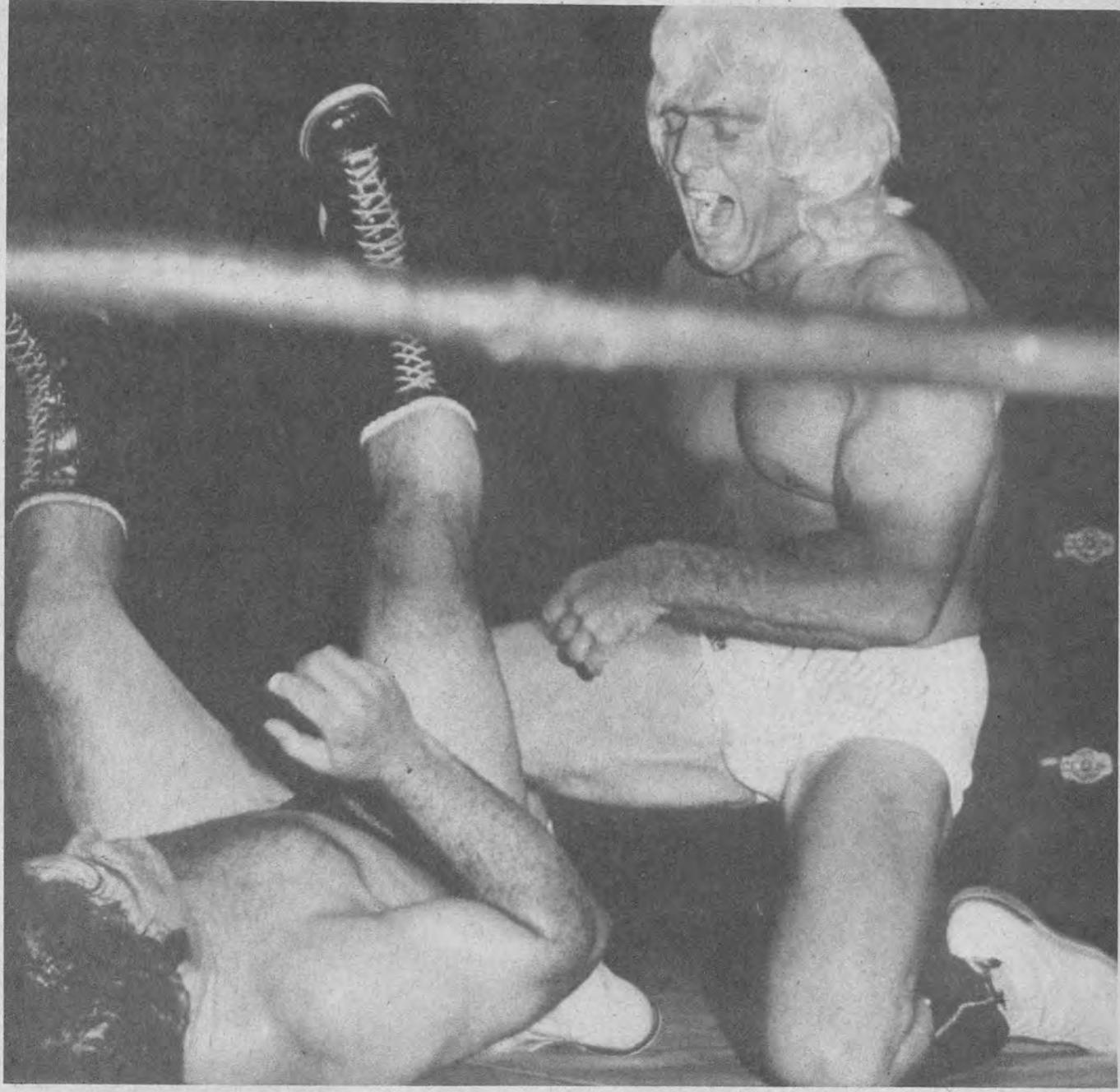
Indeed, the beginnings of this amazing evening needs to be re-created.

Everyone knows of the gruesome Rick Steamboat-Paul Jones tale, the night Jones turned on his partner and friend, at the conclusion of a battle royal. It was a dreadful moment in wrestling history.

"I loved every minute of it," Jones said with a smile.

From there, Jones traveled a peculiar path, gaining enemies and losing fans.

"I do what's good for me," Jones said, poking himself in the chest.



"A chance to beat him silly is all I live for," Jones said.

"Jones will be in little itty-bitty pieces once I'm finished with him," Flair said.

That was expected. But why did the fans hate Jones so?

"Jones tried to get Flair killed in their match," said Irving Mann, a fan who had witnessed the bout. "Jones turned his back on Flair."

"Me and my friends, we all hate Jones. Not that Flair is so hot, but compared to Jones, he's a saint. At least Flair isn't a coward."

That typified fan opinions as

Flair seems to enjoy punishing the prone Jones (above). Bloodied after the ugly brawl, Flair holds his U.S. Heavyweight Championship belt (below).



the match began. If anyone thought these men would let up, they were soundly disappointed.

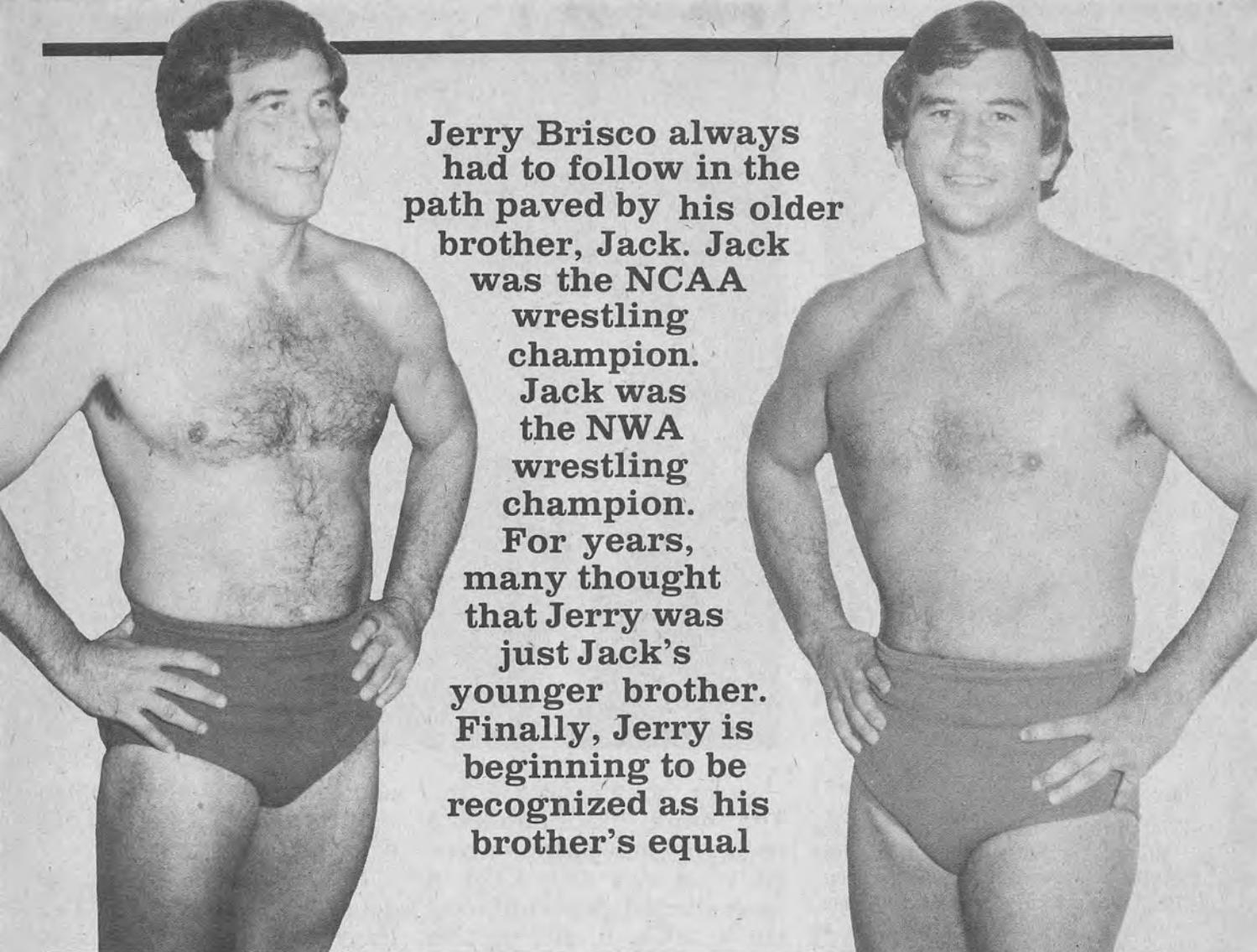
Like two maniacs, they attacked and used every conceivable tactic they could create. Each time Jones tried an illegal maneuver, the fans hissed.

"Let 'em," Jones sneered.

And each time Flair tried something, he was cheered.

"I didn't notice," Ric said.

When it was all over, a double disqualification resulted. Nothing really changed. Paul Jones will always be hated. And so will Ric Flair. Except this one night. □



Jerry Brisco always had to follow in the path paved by his older brother, Jack. Jack was the NCAA wrestling champion. Jack was the NWA wrestling champion. For years, many thought that Jerry was just Jack's younger brother. Finally, Jerry is beginning to be recognized as his brother's equal

WHO'S THE BETTER BRISCO ?

PHOTOS BY BILL APTER

GROWING UP WASN'T always easy for Jerry Brisco. Sure he was good looking, athletic, intelligent. He had a great academic and social life. But then, so did his brother, Jack. Only everything Jerry did, Jack did first. Jerry Brisco's accomplishments were not judged on their own merits. They were used as points of comparison between the two brothers.

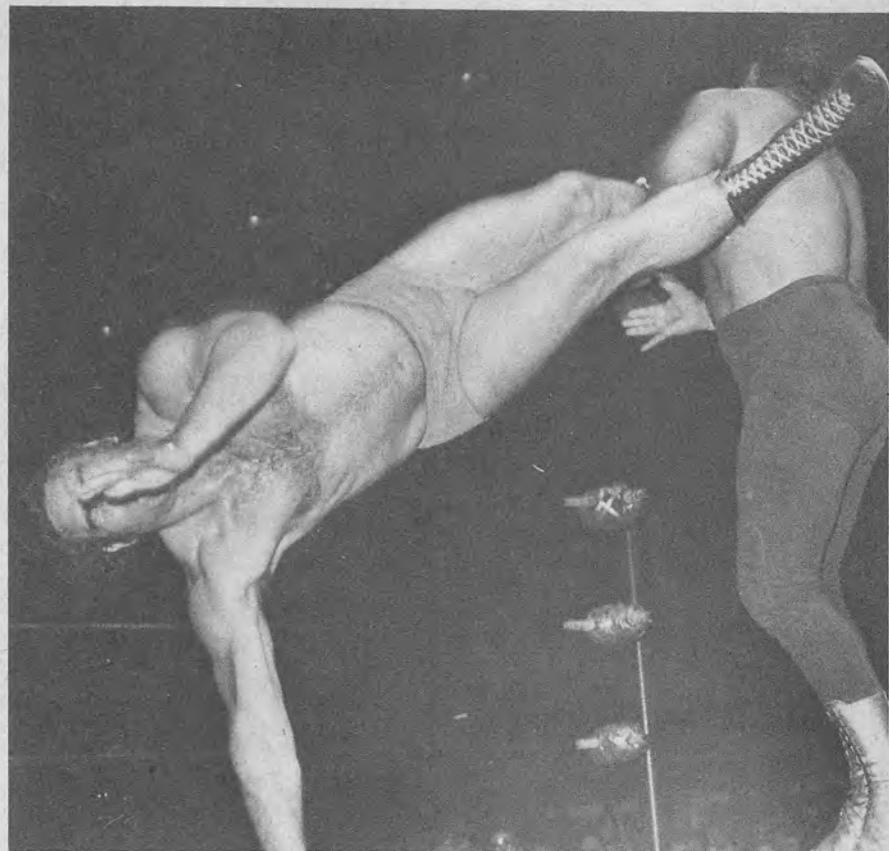
It never bothered Jack very much. "I never had to face any of the comparisons," he said. "By the time they would make a comparison I would be gone already. Jerry's high school record would be matched against mine, but by that time I was already in college. When Jerry got to college, I was already a pro."

"I never even realized what he was going through," Jack

continued. "He never told me. He was not one to complain. Finally it came to a head. I was really starting to become a successful pro and Jerry was a senior at Oklahoma State. Wrestlers on opposing teams really started to lay the comparison crap on him. 'You gonna be a pro, Jerry? You better change your name 'cause you'll never be as good as your brother.'



Jack Brisco's favorite moves: Suplexes Mr. Hito (above left), dropkicks Jose Lothario (above right), applies the figure-four leglock to the "Mystery Man" (below). Jack Brisco always set an example for his brother, Jerry, but he did not realize that his brother was hurt by constant comparisons between the two.



"Jerry took this pretty hard. The more his opponents realized it was getting to him, the more they dished out. It never affected his performance, but I know it affected his psyche. He rarely called me, and if I called him, he only spoke to me for a few minutes.

"My mom knew what was going on. She got us together

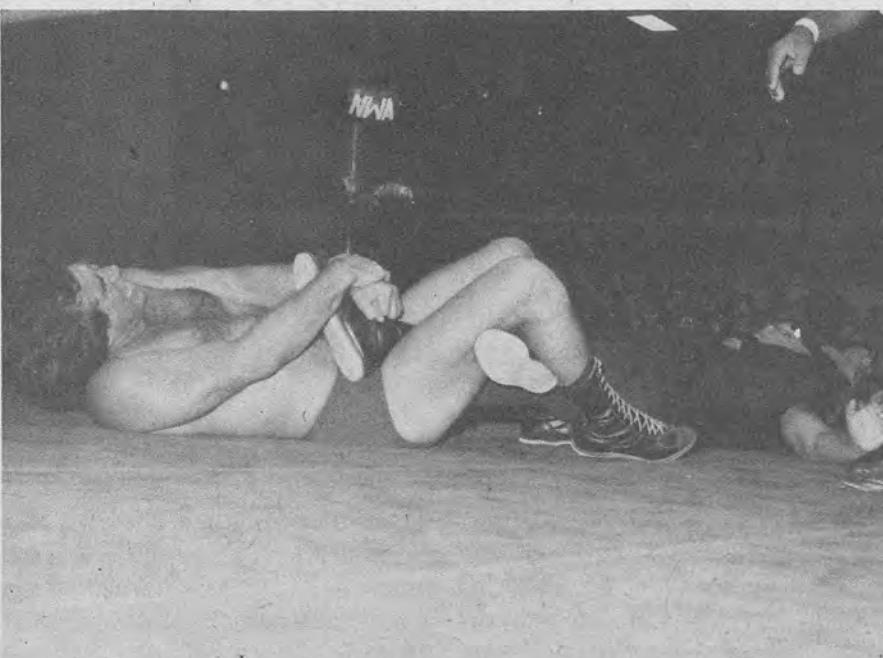
and we talked the whole thing out. Now we are best friends again."

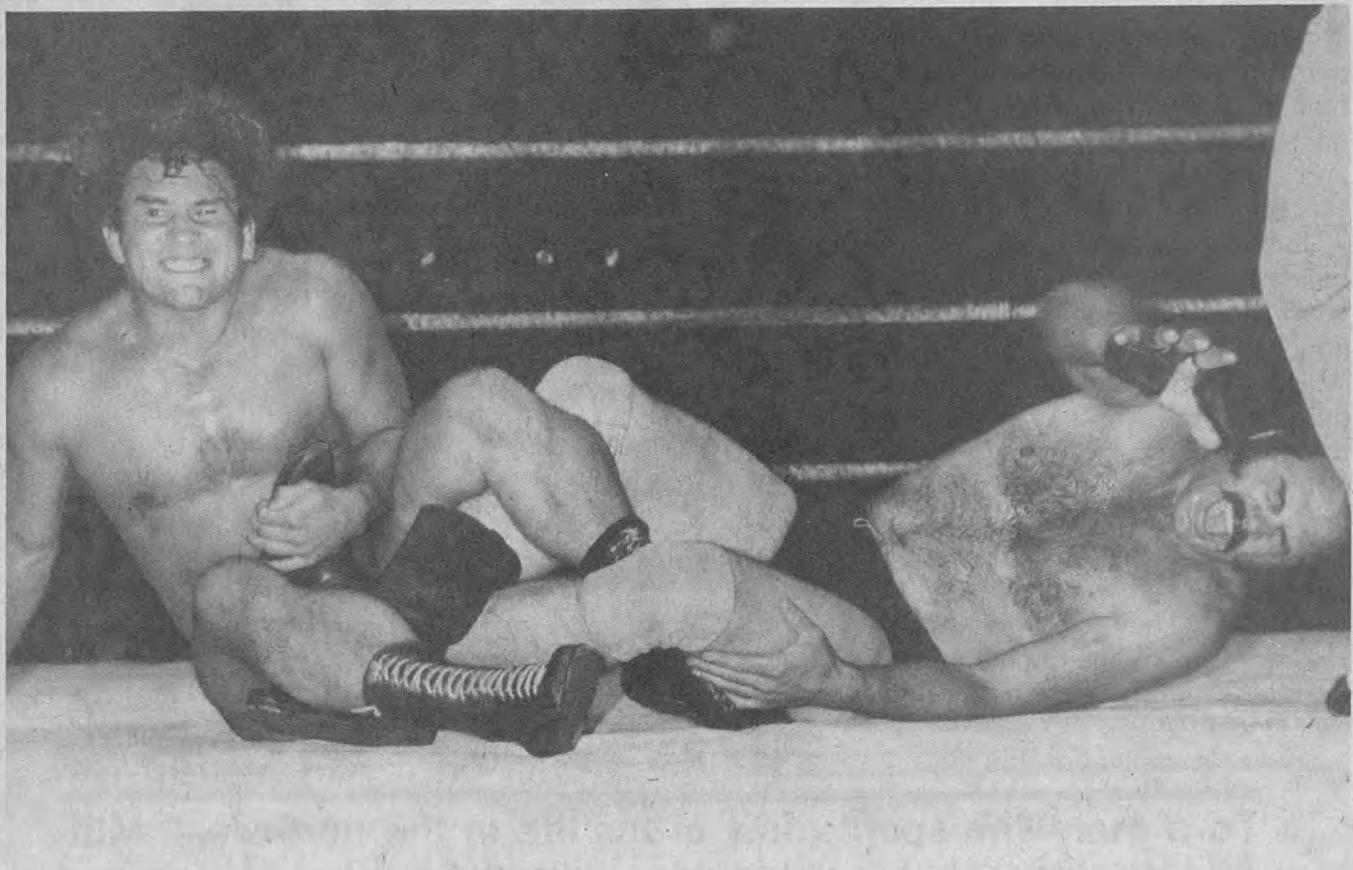
The comparisons were, of course, inevitable. Jerry climbed the same rungs in Jack's ladder of success. He attended the same high school, the same college, turned professional immediately upon graduation. Jerry never reached the same levels of success that Jack reached as an amateur, which only added to the problems.

"Jack was Oklahoma State

"Jack was Oklahoma State champion in high school and NCAA champ in college," Jerry said. "For me to have the same ability would be remarkable. How many people can do what he did? The odds of his brother repeating the same accomplishments are astronomical. But people didn't realize this. It was very easy for them to compare us. My close friends didn't. I guess what's why they were my close friends."

Jerry never really resented his brother. He resented those



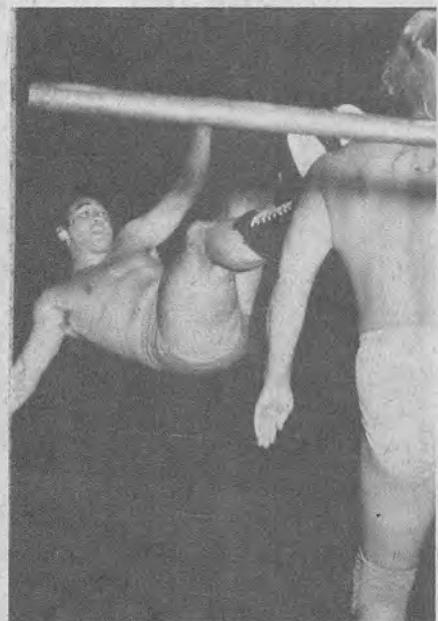


who refused to give him his own identity. Jerry in fact, is very grateful to his brother. "I owe just about everything to Jack," he said. "He was the best teacher you could ask for. He taught me about everything I know about competitiveness. I really don't know where I would be without him."

For years after turning professional, though, Jerry declined to wrestle as a tag team with his brother. "I was just afraid of everything starting all over again. Oh, how easy it would be for the critics to compare us if we were wrestling side-by-side."

The comparisons came regardless. Jack became NWA champion twice. Jerry hasn't won a world title. Quite similar to their amateur accomplishments. Recently, however, the critics haven't been as outspoken. Jerry is a legitimate wrestling star now. His recent string of victories is as impressive as Jack's. His wins

Jerry Brisco's favorite moves: Applies the figure-four leglock to Blackjack Lanza (above), dropkicks Bill Irwin (right), and supplexes him to the mat (below). Jerry is grateful to his brother for teaching him how to wrestle. He does not blame Jack for the pressure that was placed on him to follow in his path.



have been as impressive. He draws as many fans. He is ranked high in the ratings.

Is Jerry Brisco as good as Jack Brisco?

Maybe the more appropriate question should be: *Is Jack Brisco as good as Jerry Brisco?*

It's a question for the true experts of wrestling—the fans—to answer. □

IN THE 19th century, Americans were urged to move west and settle the dangerous, yet enticing pioneer regions. Many heeded the call and thus a new and greater United States was created.

Recently, another call was heeded. Another valiant, proud young man has seen the light and followed the trail to possible greater heights, has dared the streams of hazards, the uncertainty, the terror.

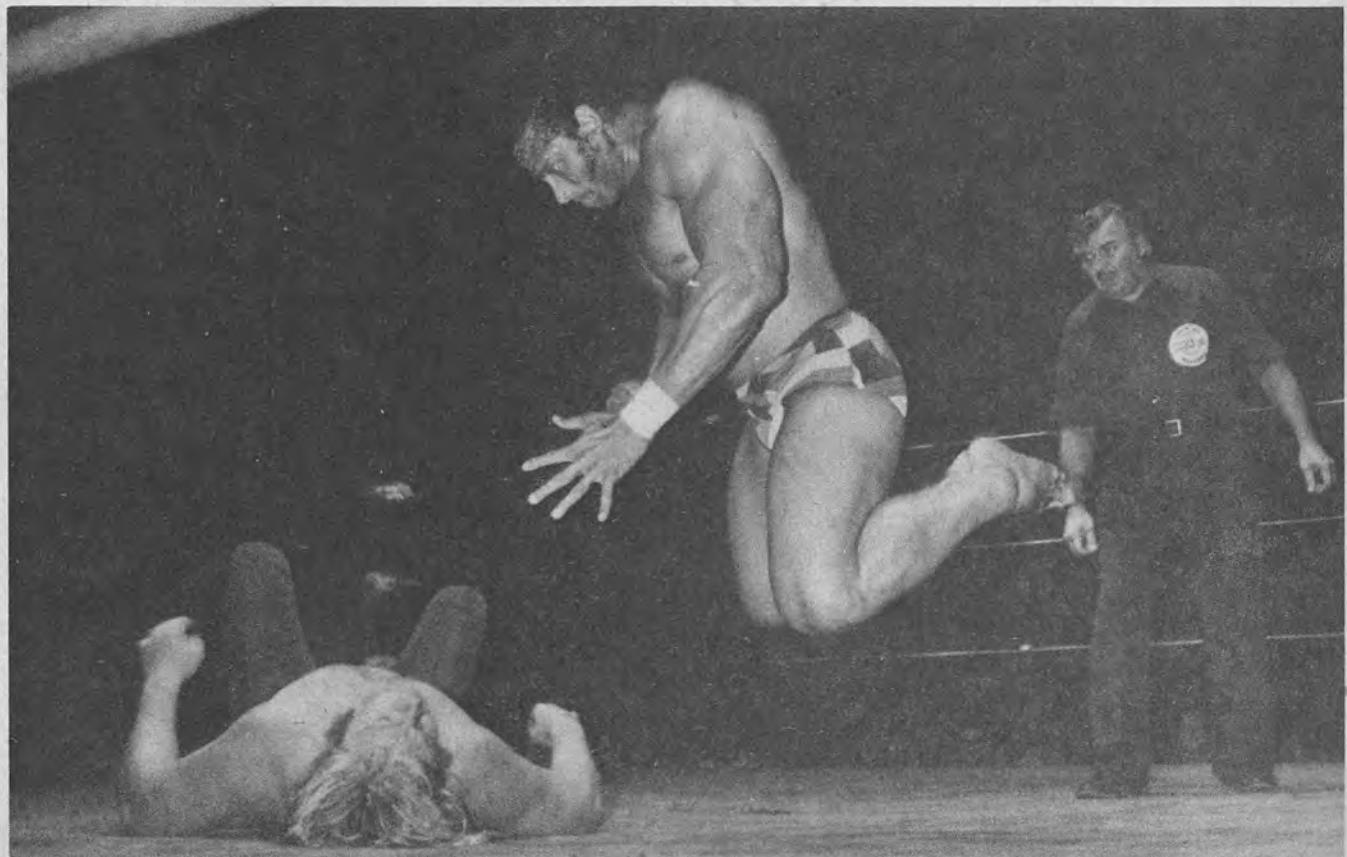
Jimmy Snuka has taken up the banner. All that distinguishes him from the rugged pioneers of 100 years ago is the destination. They went west.

Jimmy Snuka has gone east. Both times, though, the danger was incalculable.

Snuka, a native of the Fiji

SAY A PRAYER FOR JIMMY SNUKA

To a man who spent most of his life in the northwest, Mid-Atlantic wrestling is a wilderness. Jimmy Snuka is determined to conquer that wilderness. The risks are great. Many men were once determined to conquer this very area, only to find themselves sitting in a wheelchair





PHOTOS BY JIM CALDWELL

Islands, had been wrestling in the Pacific Northwest area, specifically Seattle. He had been enjoying spectacular successes. Still, the offers from back east bombarded him with their consistently enticing wails: "Come to the NWA. You can be a champion."

And Snuka was the first to admit that Seattle was dissatisfying.

"Seattle's a great town. The people are super, really friendly and it's just a great atmosphere to live in," Snuka said.

"But I have to say that I'm ambitious. I really wanted a shot at the NWA title and I felt it wasn't fair to myself to turn down offers anymore.

"What really changed my mind and sent me on my way was a lunch I had with writer Matt Brock. Matt was really persuasive. I'm glad I took his advice, no matter how tough it's been."

Tough is an understatement. Snuka did not delicately dip into the Mid-Atlantic waters. Bravely, perhaps naively, he leaped head first and immediately met the likes of Ric Flair, Greg Valentine and John Studd.

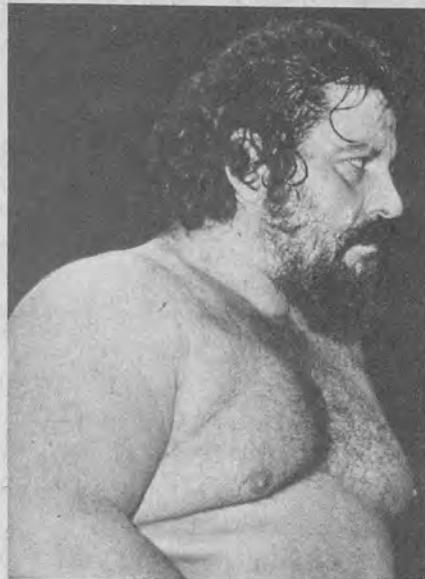
It was an icy awakening. "Man, those guys are brutal," Snuka said, shaking his bruised head. "Flair is amazing. The guy will do anything to win."

"And Valentine. I don't think he's normal. I think he's out to lunch. Valentine just growls in the ring. Sounds like some cave animals I've seen back home in Fiji."

"Studd is also whacked-out. He gets this glazed look in his

(Continued on page 62)

Jimmy Snuka (left) is now in the Mid-Atlantic region. Snuka was at war with John Studd (left, opposite page) in Texas. Their feud is renewed in the Mid-Atlantic states.



Lou Albano watches the action while his henchmen, Ken Patera and Stan Stasiak, do the dirty work.



Albano and Patera doubleteam the helpless Larry Zbyszko, a typical tactic devised by Albano.



Albano uses a plastic knife to slash away at Tony Garea, already weakened by Stan "The Man" Stasiak.

THIS IS THE time of year when outstanding achievements are honored. Those who have excelled in one way during that past 12 months receive recognition. In this spirit, we proclaim Lou Albano "Coward of the Year!"

The manager deserves this "honor" more than anyone in wrestling. When it comes to sneak attacks, cheating tactics, foreign objects, and gang warfare, Albano stands alone. However, when the odds are fair, Albano is sure to run. Albano is the kind of guy who kicks a man when he's down

only if someone else is holding the victim.

For example:

Arnold Skoaland was elected top manager in the WWWF region. There was a ceremony where Skoaland was to receive the award. When Arnold took the trophy, Albano jumped him from behind. The jealous manager leaped on Skoaland from behind, knocking him senseless.

Example two:

A recent six-man tag team match pitted Albano, Stan Stasiak, and Ken Patera against Tony Garea, Chief Jay,

Strongbow, and Larry Zbyszko. This was Albano at his worst. To see him during this bout was to understand how cowardly a man can be.

From the first, the three rulebreakers brought wrestling savagery to new depths. There was no chance for the scientific team to overcome this evil assault.

Most of the dirty work was done by Patera and Stasiak, men suited to this kind of brutality. What distinguished Albano from this wrecking crew was his disdain for going one-on one. Albano never ventured

LOU ALBANO-- COWARD OF THE YEAR

Over the years, Lou Albano has been called many things. This time, the insult fits the crime. Lou Albano is far and away the "Coward of the Year." Read this story and we're sure you'll agree

within the ropes unless his partner had a victim in trouble. Then Lou would leap on the fallen grappler and doubleteam the victim. When it comes to kicking a man when he's down, Albano is the best.

Albano deserves being coward of the year, though, for

(Continued on page 64)



Lou Albano (left) is perhaps the most notorious manager in wrestling. After Stan Stasiak had battered Larry Zbyszko, Albano the bully went to work on the weakened man.



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BOBO BRAZIL

(Continued from Page 25)



Bobo drives his powerful right tricep into the neck of Baron Scicluna. Bobo serves as an inspiration and example for young wrestlers.

jokers like Baker are constantly trying to maim him with foreign objects. I think it stinks. They know they can't beat the man in hand-to-hand combat so they resort to that kind of stuff."

By the time the match ended, Brazil grabbed the upperhand (as well as Baker's metallic object) and was the victor. The first person to congratulate him was young Tommy Rich, whose notebook was filled with valuable information.

Brazil is a proud man and finds as much joy in helping upcoming stars as he does beating the likes of Ox Baker. "It is up to the established veterans of the sport to set examples and guide the younger wrestlers," Brazil said, hardly showing the effects of the

vicious battle he just completed. "I'm just glad that a wrestler with as much potential as Tommy Rich was observing my tactics and not Ox Baker's."

"I realize that it's an unreasonable dream, but I'd like to see every young wrestler take the same course as a Tommy Rich. It just seems to me that some wrestlers are here just to see how far they can bend the rules. Man, I'd like to personally eliminate all of them from wrestling."

Bobo has wrestled throughout the United States and around the world in his crusade. He is beginning to lose hope. "As long as these guys can get away with breaking the rules, why should they change? Why should they take the time to

study the sport when they can be an instant success as a rulebreaker?"

As frustrating as Bobo finds this situation, he has never considered changing his tactics. He has suffered many serious injuries, but they only serve to strengthen his convictions. "Sometimes I have to fight fire with fire," he said shaking his



Bobo, one of the most well-traveled veterans of wrestling, prepares to whip the Spoiler across the ring. This match took place in Texas.

head. "If I have to be brutal to stop a brutal wrestler, I'll do it. But I'd much rather get in the ring and wrestle."

And when he wrestles, he knows someone will be watching. Bobo has packed arenas and made friends wherever he's been. That's important to him. But perhaps more important are the times when he gets a special fan at ringside. A Tommy Rich, for instance, who some day might continue the crusade that Bobo Brazil has so long maintained. □

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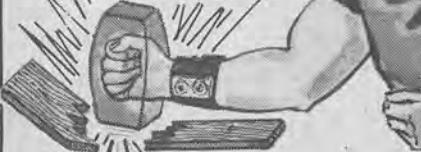
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Funk vs. Lewin

(Continued from Page 18)

claims they can never hope to carry out. The second is the family. Terry is nothing without Dory, and Dory is nothing without Terry. It's ridiculous. If I want a family match I'll sign to meet the Partridge Family!"

Lewin was intent on teaching Terry Funk a lesson or two about overextension of the mouth. He too was wrestling for pride.

The two men made their entrances into the squared circle simultaneously. Both strutted, they did not walk. Both were loose, they weren't tight or nervous. These were two professional men ready to pull at one another's guts and throat. Pride was their only stimulant.

The match began quickly. Dory Funk Jr. whispered a short phrase to his brother just before the match began. One ringside observer said that Dory had muttered, "Remember what name you're representing." Terry went at Lewin like a man with fire in his veins. The heat had been turned on and only two men remained in the kitchen.

Mark Lewin, a man who has seen Terry Funk countless times before, expected Funk's quick start. He was prepared. He would not lay back and allow Funk to attack him. Instead, he attacked as well.

Somehow, the pace of fierce attack and refusal to retreat continued. At one point, Funk had Lewin near submission with a powerful figure-four leglock. Terry squeezed and squeezed. Lewin grimaced but would not quit. Using all the strength he had left in the upper most reserves of his body, Funk squeezed once more. Lewin's knee nearly popped. Once again, he did not quit. Funk broke the hold. He was exhausted. The strength necessary to apply the hold was gone.

Despite the punishment he had absorbed, Lewin got on his feet and grabbed the advantage. He threw Funk to the mat time and again. He then attempted to apply his patented sleeper hold to Funk.



Terry wrings the arm of Mark and then applies a perfect armlock. Lewin found it impossible to escape.

Terry was groggy. He felt the energy and life in his body being sapped as Lewin's hold denied blood to Funk's head. However like Lewin, he would not quit. He mustered up enough strength to throw a backwards desperation punch at Lewin's face. The punch landed and the war continued. Neither man was going to quit.

A title was not on the line. A title shot wasn't even on the line. No great feud was culminating at this match. Rather the degree of effort was best explained by the fact that the fans were watching two professionals who were spurred on by the greatest and most effective motivation of all. Pride. □

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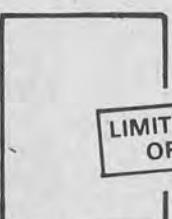
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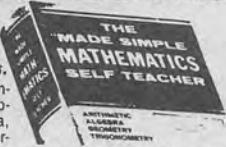
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Backlund vs. Race

(Continued from Page 21)



Holding their belts, Race and Backlund shake hands after their draw in Florida (above). The WWF and NWA champions pose with their belts (below). A Backlund-Race rematch would thrill the entire wrestling world. Who would win such a match?



the worst problem of all is the money. These men rightfully command large paydays. That may be the biggest problem of all."

Backlund's business affairs are handled by his manager, Arnold Skoaland. While Arnold is open to the idea of a Race-Backlund showdown, he is shrewd and he realizes the price must be right.

"We've turned down offers in the past to wrestle Race," Skoaland reported. "Race is not just another grappler. He is a world champion. Bobby and I aren't afraid of him as a wrestler, but let's be realistic. For

what we'd be risking, it's going to take a plane-full of dough to get the two fellows together."

Money is Race's only concern. A veteran with a keen business sense, he would face an elephant in a closet for the right payday.

"I've been approached several times concerning a Backlund match," the NWA king said. "The money offered hasn't even been in the right ballpark. If I ever face Backlund again, I know I'll embarrass him and whip him quite badly. People will have to pay heavily to see such a sight, because

I'm the only man alive who can provide it. I'm not holding my breath, but if the promoters get serious with their offers, I'll take him on in a Chinese restaurant for all I care."



After the match, Race sneak attacked Backlund, using his NWA belt as a weapon. Bob has not forgotten this incident and wants revenge.

A Backlund-Race encounter would not be unique. Shortly after Backlund won the WWF title from Superstar Graham, he flew south to Florida and met Race in a classic bout. The two champions struggled, clawed, scratched, and sweated for 60 grueling minutes. The result was a draw. But with Backlund's worth dramatically increased due to his lengthy reign as champion, his purse would have to be increased considerably for a rematch.

The entire wrestling community would pay to see a Backlund-Race showdown. Let us hope that a certain silver-haired veteran promoter in the northeastern United States can fit the pieces together and bring us a match that will live in history. □

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**Dundee
vs. Lawler**

(Continued from Page 10)



As Dundee lay semi-conscious, Lawler drops to the canvas with a fist to his face. Dundee cannot understand Lawler's sudden change.

ropes.

"I wanted his face to look like a squished squirrel," Lawler roared.

Dundee refused to use his fists. When he wrested the chain away from Lawler, he refused to bang away on Lawler's head. To the very end, Dundee held out hope for reconciliation.

"I tried," Dundee said.

Finally, Lawler swung the chain and knocked Dundee out.

"We're enemies now," Lawler shouted. "There's no other way of looking at it. Far as I'm concerned, I want Dundee stretched out."

Despite the brutal attack and harsh words, Dundee had a remorseful response.

"He was my friend," Bill said, brushing away a tear. □

SAMMARTINO

(Continued from Page 26)



In one of the matches that made him the "Living Legend," Bruno Sammartino applies an armlock to Pedro Morales. Tom Seaver hosted the show that Bruno appeared on. Bruno talked about his childhood, his early career and his reign as a brilliant and loved champion. Bruno enjoyed the show greatly.

Host Tom Seaver, star pitcher of the Cincinnati Reds, led Bruno down memory lane in a gripping examination of Sammartino's life and career.

"I explained to Tom what it was like growing up in wartime Italy and how the scars of war affected me," Bruno recounted.

"Many fans would be interested in how I got my start in wrestling and the early trials I had to endure



before I realized my dream, the WWF title," Sammartino continued.

What impressed Bruno was the professional quality of the program's personnel.

"Doggone it, I want to admit that I have always been a Tom Seaver fan," Bruno confessed smilingly. "So when I had the opportunity to talk wrestling with Seaver, it was a double thrill."

By having a chance to fully explain all the multiple pressures professional wrestling exerts on its stars, Bruno felt the show was also instructive to his millions of fans.

"After this show, I think my fans know who the real Bruno Sammartino is." □

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INTRODUCTION

(Continued from Page 6)

Greatest Sports Legend, followed the former WWF champion as he appeared on a television show hosted by baseball's Tom Seaver.

For most of his career, Victor Rivera was a scientific wrestler without peer. But in recent years, after being brainwashed by Fred Blassie, Rivera gave up his scientific tactics for brutal, illegal maneuvers. Look What Fred Blassie's Done To You was an open letter to Rivera that appeared in the August 1979 issue.

The Blackjack Mulligan-Andre the Giant feud has raged, off and on, for more than five years. In the late-'70s, however, there was a tenuous peace made between the two giants. Blackjack Mulligan: "How Andre The Giant Changed My Life," from our January 1979 edition, was a heartwarming story that brought great reaction from the fans.

Another great feud of the 1970s was that between Dusty Rhodes and Greg Valentine. In September 1979, the battlefield was the WWF. At the time, Rhodes elicited help from his friends in trying to win the war. Putski vs. Valentine: Why Ivan Putski Had To Do Dusty Rhodes' Dirty Work was a controversial article that put *The Wrestler* right in the middle of a raging feud.

Ernie Ladd has been a controversial figure all his life. First in football and now in wrestling, the Big Cat has always felt the rules were for someone else. So when he said,

"Backlund Is Paying Me To Destroy Andre," *The Wrestler* sent a reporter and photographer to try and discover the truth. This story first appeared in the June 1979 issue.

More than once, Paul Jones has turned on his friends and the fans. In November 1979, he was among the most hated men in the sport. How Paul Jones Turned Ric Flair Into A Hero proved that no one was more disliked in the Mid-Atlantic than Jones. And for good reason.

Like twin cyclones, the Brisco brothers cause quite a storm when they wrestle side by side. In our January 1980 issue, we dared to ask Who's The Better Brisco? What's the answer? Read the story!

Often, a wrestler with extraordinary ability becomes the target of bitter jealousy from his peers. Jimmy Snuka is a man who has always been hated because of his greatness. In April 1979, we published Say A Prayer For Jimmy Snuka. The story is as true today as it was then.

And finally, we close this edition with another story that is as true today as it was when it was written. Lou Albano—Coward Of The Year, from the February 1978 issue, proves that Albano has always been—and always will be—the same disgusting person he is today.

That's the menu for this mid-winter issue of *Best Of The Wrestler*. We'll see you in three months with another all-star lineup. □

EDDIE GILBERT

answer. A very positive answer. "The kid will win it all someday," Thesz stated flatly.

Eddie, the son of leading junior heavyweight contender Tommy Gilbert, blushed when he was told of Thesz's comment. "What can I say," he asked. "When possibly the greatest wrestler in history says you are good, well, you can't ask for a finer compliment. When my dad says I'm good, that's one thing. He's my dad. But Lou Thesz? Are you sure he said that?"

Gilbert was asked if he wanted to listen to the tape recording of Thesz's interview. He smiled and declined. Gilbert would have found that too embarrassing. He's a modest young man who possesses talent that most veterans never acquire. And he is a wrestler with two sizable goals. "The first is to become as great a wrestler as my father. The second is to win the NWA title."

Gilbert is quick to credit those who helped him prepare for life in the squared circle.

"Most of my training came from my dad, who taught me all he knew about the sport," Gilbert said. "I also received a lot of help from Lou Thesz, Jerry Lawler, and the Funks, Dory Jr., and Terry. I was very fortunate to have so many great stars helping me along."

Eddie was born and raised in the small town of Lexington, Tennessee, where he excelled in sports throughout his school years, especially wrestling and football. He displayed a talent for both writing and photography, but it was the lure of wrestling that finally won out.

Gilbert wrestles in the Memphis area and has formed



an outstanding tag team with his father, Tommy.

"Teaming with my father was always one of my biggest dreams," Eddie explained. "I am still very much in awe of his ability and I hope to someday become as fine a wrestler as he is."

Other Memphis stars speak in glowing terms about Eddie Gilbert's future.

Young Eddie Gilbert holds Wayne Farris firmly in a headlock (above). Eddie was not only taught by his father, Tommy, but by many of the sport's greats.

"I've never seen anyone so eager to learn and so quick to master the sport," Lawler said. "Mark my words, there'll be no stopping him once he gets enough experience."

"Old man Gilbert sure must be proud," stated Bill Dundee.

"Can't believe he's so tough at his age," Buddy Wayne confessed. "In a few years, he'll be unbeatable. He's that good."

Gilbert's immense popularity with Memphis fans is easy to understand. His clean-cut appearance blended with his gentle personality and his outstanding ring style combine to make him possibly the sport's most promising rookie.

What does Tommy Gilbert have to say about Eddie's outstanding ring efforts?

"That's my boy!" exclaimed a very proud father. □

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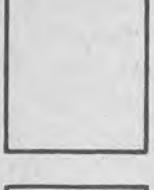
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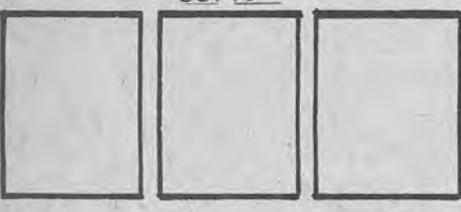


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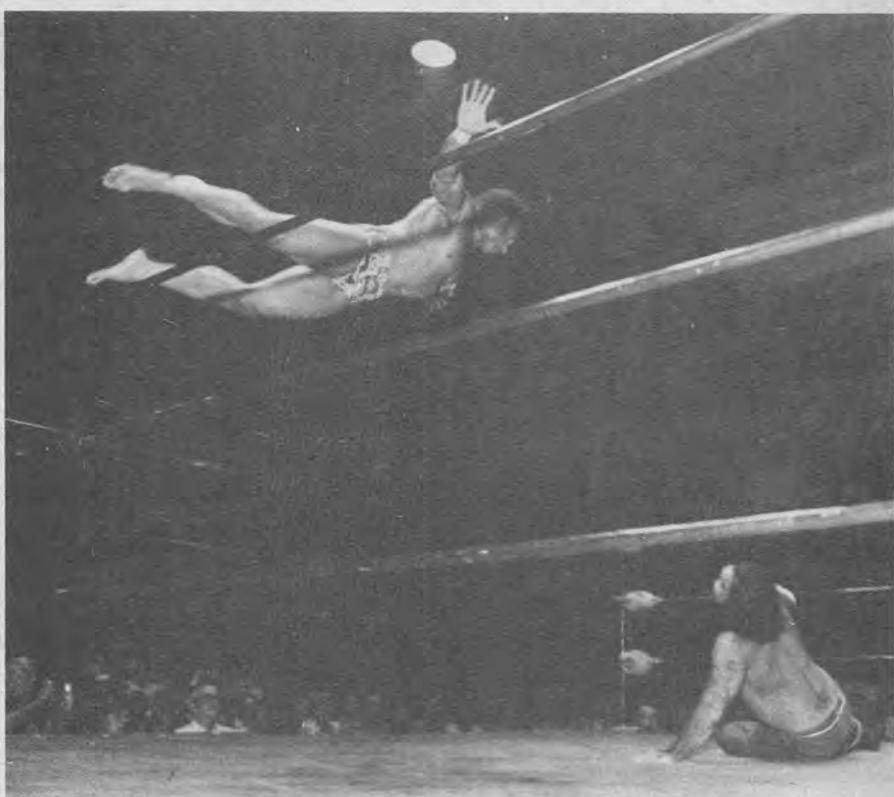
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JIMMY SNUKA

(Continued from Page 47)

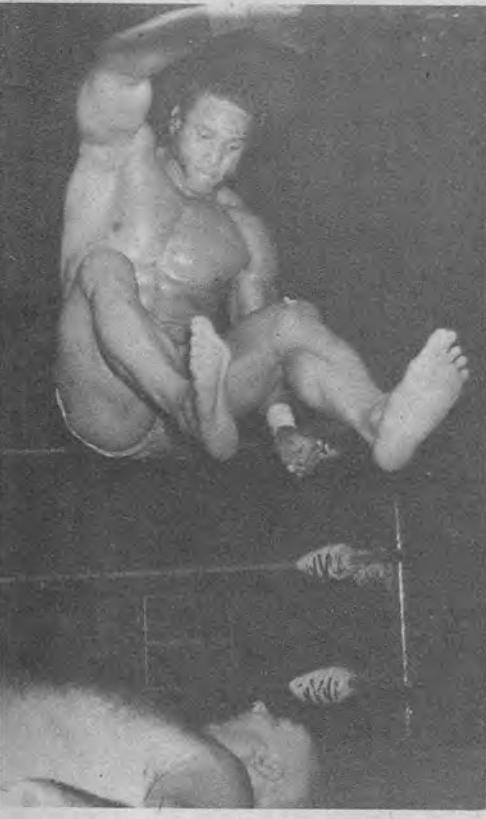


Jimmy flies through the air (top of page) against the Alaskan. He captures Studd in an armlock (above). In Seattle, Jimmy is vicious against Jesse Ventura (left).

eyes, kind of a brain-damaged look.

"I knew when I came back east to pursue my dream of a major title, I was leaving myself open for a lot of trouble.

"Some people were upset when I told them what I was



It is hoped that Jimmy will wrestle like he does (above) against Ox Baker. Ric Flair, Greg Valentine and others may not be able to stop him.

going to do. They knew what kind of men the Mid-Atlantic rulebreakers were. A lot of people told me that I was taking a big gamble and that I should stay in Seattle.

"That's not the way I am. You have only one life and you should live it to the fullest. I couldn't stand having regrets when my career was over.

"Just before I made this final decision, I tried to imagine what I'd be like at seventy. My career would be behind me and I'd be sifting through the memories.

"I would think back to this moment of my youth. I tried to imagine what I would feel if I'd decided to play it safe.

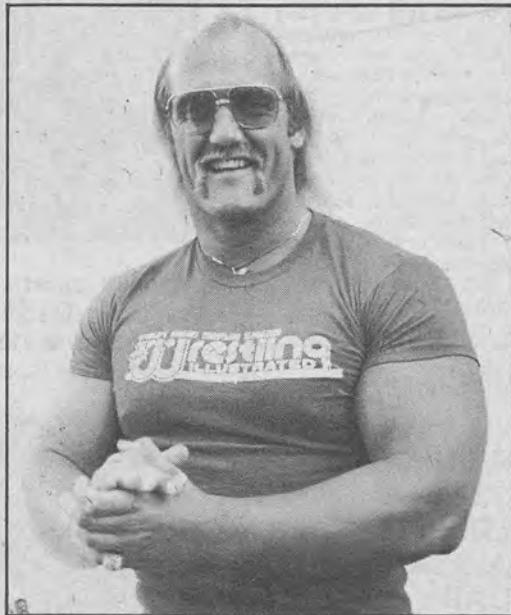
"It's one thing to say I couldn't. It would have been tragic to say, 'I should have'."

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LOU ALBANO

(Continued from Page 49)



While it appears that Albano is only punching Zbyszko (above), a close-up of the shot reveals the manager is wielding a plastic knife (below).



what he did to Larry Zbyszko. The young grappler was mauled by Stasiak and Patera. No man could have survived this brutalizing. Weakened, helpless, barely conscious, Zbyszko struggled to his corner, desperately trying to tag his partners.

With gleeful relish, Albano leaped at the fallen grappler. It was instantly apparent to all but the referee Albano had a foreign

object. Lou brilliantly hid it from the official's gaze: Again and again, the weapon flashed down on the grappler's body. Albano was too smart to draw blood by going at Zbyszko's face. He knew the body blows would be agonizing but undetectable. That's the way Albano does things.

Not satisfied with savaging Zbyszko, Albano repeated the tactic on both Garea and Strongbow, first allowing his cohorts to batter the victims senseless. The coward becomes a bully when the other guy is down.

As might be expected, Albano and friends were eventually disqualified. Fortunately, their victims don't suffer any permanent injury. However, one can be assured this is only the first of many maulings caused by this reprehensible trio.

Because of this, Albano deserves every insult in the book. Still, random insults don't mean much. We don't call Albano a coward simply to

needle him. We're accusing him of cowardice because we want the world to know what kind of man this manager really is.

Of course, we had to tell Albano of this honor. As might be expected, after he stopped sputtering, the manager retorted in his usual hysterical manner! Here are some of the cleaner remarks.

"All you magazine people hate me!" Albano declaimed. "You're all jealous of the Captain. I'm fabulously wealthy and you peons are always envious of barons. How much money do you have in the bank, peasant? Ahh, you shriveled people always try bringing everyone down to your own sewers."

"Well, the Captain doesn't need compliments from mean little hacks. I know I'm the greatest. My wrestlers know I'm the greatest. People who cringe in front of me show the proper respect. I'm bigger than all the magazine writers in the world."

"But remember! The Captain is the most courageous man in the world. I can take the measure of anyone. In the six-man tag team you mentioned, I proved that. I didn't do much in that match because Patera and Stasiak wanted to play. Part of my success is letting wrestlers do what they want. But when things got rough, when it was down in the mud battling, the Captain was there. Unfortunately, Strongbow, Garea, and Zbyszko are so bad, there wasn't much need for me."

"In closing, peasants, say what you want about me. The Captain doesn't care. It's lucky for you I don't. Because when I get angry, I get even. All the words in the world won't save you then!"

We're not afraid of anything Albano says. After all, who worries when the "Coward of the Year" talks? □

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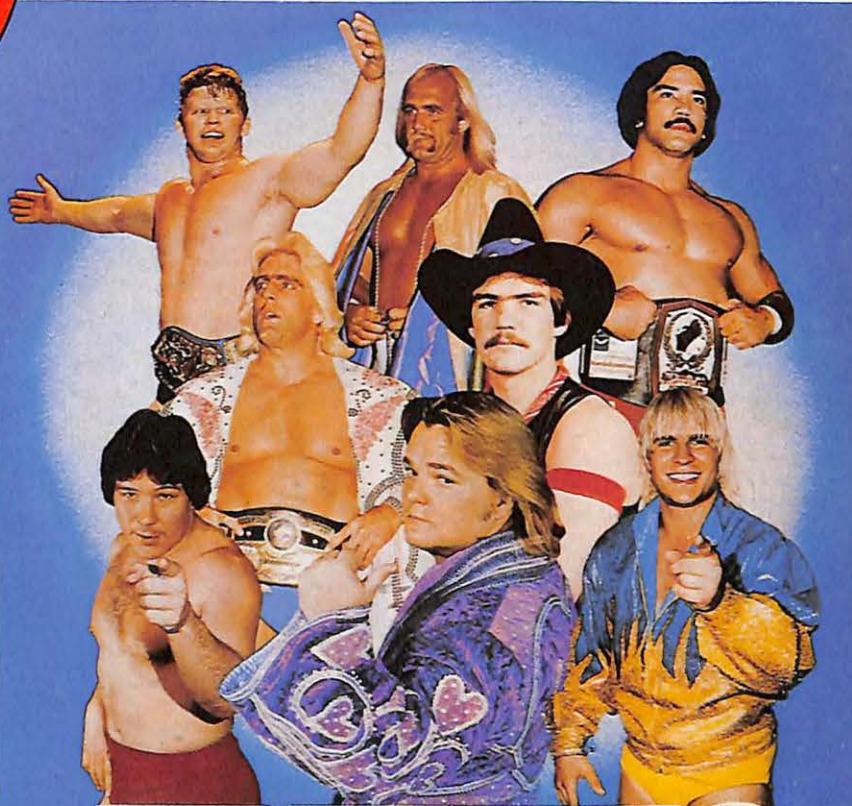
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